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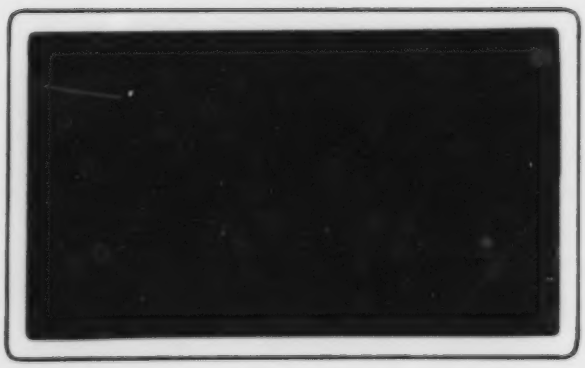

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Canada

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
& COORDINATING COMMITTEE (EACC)
WESTERN & NORTHERN REGION

1991

REGISTRATION/ACTIVITY REPORT

92-07470/

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND COORDINATING COMMITTEE (EACC) WESTERN & NORTHERN REGION

1991 REGISTRATION/ACTIVITY REPORT

Compiled and Edited by: D. Lorieau
Environmental Protection
Western & Northern Region
Conservation & Protection
Regional Office

Environment Canada | Environnement Canada
Conservation and Protection | Conservation et Protection

CANADA'S GREEN PLAN
LE PLAN VERT DU CANADA

WESTERN & NORTHERN REGION
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1165-36/E102

April 22, 1992

To: Distribution

1991 Western & Northern Region EACC Annual Report

The Western & Northern Region Environmental Assessment Coordinating Committee (EACC) is pleased to submit their 1991 Annual Report.

In the calendar year 1991, the Western & Northern EACC facilitated Departmental input on 331 project referrals, 20 of them major projects. Meetings were held in Winnipeg, Calgary, Regina and Edmonton.

The year saw increasing strains on Departmental resources to keep up with increasing workloads, changing legal requirements and their related implications for inter-jurisdictional relations. The work of all Services in delivering the Departmental program for environmental assessment has been commendable.

I hope that you find the 1991 W&N Region EACC Annual Report to be a helpful summary of our diverse work in this area.

R.R. Lane
Chairman, EACC

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PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

ALBERTA

ACTIVE PROJECTS:

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NW-4476-1	Chem-Security Ltd., Proposed expansion of the Alberta Special Waste Treatment Centre (EP)

INACTIVE PROJECTS:

NW-4409	Milk River Dam (IWD)

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4263: Oldman River-Three Rivers Dam; Alberta; Transport Canada; DFO

BACKGROUND:

After more than a decade of assessment and planning, Alberta Environment approved construction of a dam on the Oldman River at the Three Rivers site near Brocket, Alberta. This site is 12 km upstream of the Peigan Indian Reserve. The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) is prepared to defend a statement of claim by the Peigan Nation in the Federal Court of Canada, however, this claim is not being actively pursued. At the request of DIAND, Environment Canada reviewed the project and identified a number of potential impacts on reserve lands that could result from construction and operation of the Three Rivers Dam.

Following the Rafferty/Alameda federal court ruling, the Friends of the Oldman River (FOR) attempted to have EARP applied to this project in issuing a permit under the Navigable Water Protection Act and in carrying out enforcement responsibilities under the Fisheries Act. On August 11, 1989 the Federal Court ruled against FOR. The Court of Appeal decision on this case was handed down on March 13, 1990. The Court ruled in favour of FOR, squashing the Navigable Waters Protection Act approval and ordering both the Ministers of Transport and Fisheries and Oceans to comply with the EARP Guidelines Order.

KEY ISSUES:

Loss of fish habitat, crop damage from staging waterfowl, mercury contamination of fish, dust storms from reservoir, loss of swimming opportunities, riparian rights, long-term maintenance of cottonwood forests, water-shortages throughout the Oldman River basin.

STATUS:

Construction on the Oldman River Dam is complete. Alberta's appeal of the March 13, 1990 court decision was heard in the Supreme Court in February, 1991. To date the court decision is still pending. On November 16, 1990, a Panel was announced and public hearings were held in November, 1991.

FUTURE ACTION:

Upon release of the Panel's report, IWD will coordinate any input into the response to the report that may be required from DOE.

Prepared by: D.J. Munro
Phone: (306) 780-6544

Originated: January 20, 1988
Updated: January 2, 1990
Updated: March 27, 1990
Updated: October 29, 1990
Updated: November 27, 1990
Updated: January 14, 1991 (no change)
Updated: December 16, 1991

Lead: IWD
Contact: D.J. Munro
Phone: (306) 780-6544

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4530: Cardinal River Coals Limited, Freehold Extension, surface coal development

BACKGROUND:

Cardinal River Coals Limited (CRC) has a surface mining operation near Cadomin, Alberta. The company has proposed to extend its operations onto adjacent lands in two different areas, one of which is the Freehold Extension, northwest of Cadomin. The proposed new mines will require infrastructure extensions (bridges, roads, etc.) but will not require new personnel or equipment. The Gregg River crossing into the Freehold area was split off from the original Freehold EIA and is being screened separately from the Freehold.

Cardinal River Coals have submitted separate EIAs for the two expansion projects.

KEY ISSUES:

Operations may exert impacts on wildlife or fish habitat; water quality and air quality concerns may arise from construction and operation, especially if the unused preparation facility is reactivated.

STATUS:

DFO is the lead initiator for the project. The EIA review was completed October 2, 1990 and sent to Alberta Environment. A Supplemental Information report was prepared by the proponent in response to federal and provincial concerns. The Supplemental Information was reviewed and comments sent to DFO. A tour of the Freehold was made by EP (ADO) and DFO on July 23, 1991. A meeting was held to discuss the deficiencies in the Supplemental Information package. DFO presented their deficiencies and explained what was required of CRC with respect to protecting the fish in Jarvis Creek or to replacing them with a created diversion. CRC will have to finish their detailed design on the Jarvis Creek diversion and present it to DFO for their consideration.

FUTURE ACTION:

DFO will make a screening decision once it receives the final report on the Jarvis Creek Diversion.

Prepared by: K. Rothwell
Phone: (403) 468-8006
Originated: August 28, 1990
Updated: January 2, 1991
Updated: August 28, 1991
Updated: January 10, 1992

Lead: EP (ADO)
Contact: P. Erickson
Phone: (403) 468-8005

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4530-1 Cardinal River Coals Limited, 50 A Baseline, surface coal development, Extension

BACKGROUND:

Cardinal River Coals Limited (CRC) has a surface mining operation near Cadomin, Alberta. The company has proposed to extend its operations onto adjacent lands in two different areas, one of which is called the 50A Baseline Extension. The proposed new mines will require infrastructure extensions (bridges, roads, etc.) but will not require new personnel or equipment.

Cardinal River Coals have submitted separate EIAs for the two expansion projects.

KEY ISSUES:

Operations may exert impacts on wildlife or fish habitat; water quality and air quality concerns may arise from construction and operation, especially if the unused preparation facility is reactivated.

STATUS:

DFO is the federal lead initiator for the project. The EIA review was completed October 2, 1990 and relayed to Alberta Environment. A Supplemental Information report was prepared by the proponent in response to federal and provincial concerns. The Supplemental Information was reviewed and comments sent to DFO. A tour of the 50A Baseline was made by EP (ADO) and DFO on July 23, 1991. A meeting was held to discuss the deficiencies in the Supplemental Information package. DFO presented their deficiencies and explained what was required of CRC with respect to determining if the creeks in the 50A Baseline area are fish bearing waters. CRC will finish and present data on the fisheries in the 50A Baseline area and present them to DFO for their consideration.

FUTURE ACTION:

DFO will make a screening decision once it receives the final report on the fisheries in the 50A Baseline.

Prepared by: K. Rothwell
Phone: (403) 468-8006
Originated: August 28, 1990
Updated: January 2, 1991
Updated: May 9, 1991
Updated: August 28, 1991
Updated: January 10, 1992

Lead: EP (ADO)
Contact: Pauline Erickson
Phone: (403) 468-8005

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC

NW-4532; Luscar Sterco (1977) Limited - Proposed Pembina Forks Extension to Coal Valley Mine

BACKGROUND

Luscar Sterco (1977) Limited is proposing to extend their current surface mining operation boundary, near Coal Valley, Alberta, to develop coal resources in the east extension area. The proposed expansion will encompass about 1230 ha along the Lovett River to the junction with the Pembina River. This project will produce over 3.7 million clean short tonnes of coal. Mining and reclamation activities are planned to occur from 1992 through 1998.

KEY ISSUES

Creek diversion and impoundments may affect water quality. Impacts will occur on wildlife and possibly fish habitat in the Lovett River. Water quality concerns may arise from construction and operation.

STATUS

The EIA was reviewed and DOE comments sent to DFO on December 24, 1990. A site visit was made in July, 1991 at the request of the company. The EIA deficiencies were discussed at several meetings between Luscar Sterco, DFO, DOE, ADOE and Alberta Forestry, Lands and Wildlife (AFLW). Deficiencies that needed to be addressed were identified by DFO. The company is responding to these deficiencies.

FUTURE ACTION

DFO has yet to make a final screening decision on this project.

Prepared by:	P. Erickson	Lead:	EP (ADO)
Phone:	(403) 468-8005	Contact:	P. Erickson
Originated:	August 29, 1990	Phone:	(403) 468-8005
Updated:	September 27, 1990 (No change)		
Updated:	January 4, 1991		
Updated:	October 8, 1991 (M. Constable)		
Updated:	January 10, 1992 (P. Erickson)		

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC

NW-4533: Vacation Alberta Corporation, Westcastle Four Season Resort

BACKGROUND

The existing Westcastle Ski Area is to be developed into a four season resort including recreational facilities, golf course, accommodation, RV campground and commercial services. The area is 46 km southwest of Pincher Creek.

KEY ISSUES

Water diversions will create concerns about hydrology, water quality and flood protection. Other environmental concerns relate to fish and wildlife habitat, existing land use, and the preservation of historical and archaeological sites.

STATUS

DFO has indicated it will be initiating EARP for the proposal and conducted an initial assessment. Alberta has requested the preparation an environmental impact assessment, which the proponent is preparing. DOE provided technical advice to DFO regarding the environmental implication of the proposal to assist in their initial assessment.

FUTURE ACTION

IWD will coordinate DOE's review (IWD and CWS) of the EIA, when it is available, to provide technical advice to DFO and keep the EACC informed as to the status of the proposal.

Prepared by:	C. Rodger	Lead:	IWD
Phone:	(403) 468-8003	Contact:	D. Munro
Originated:	August 29, 1990	Phone:	(306) 780-6544
Updated:	January 14, 1991 (D. Munro)		
Updated:	December 16, 1991		

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4527 Little Bow Water Management Project, Alberta

BACKGROUND:

The Government of Alberta proposes to construct a reservoir on the Little Bow River upstream of Carmangay. Included in this project is an increase in the diversion of water from the Highwood River, a diversion into Clear Lake for improved recreation and a small amount of irrigation, and an increase in the irrigation along the Little Bow River.

KEY ISSUES:

The Highwood River provides important fish habitat for the Bow River basin. It is particularly important for its spawning habitat for the Bow River rainbow trout population. The Highwood River downstream of High River has experienced fish kill during low flow periods possibly due to existing water diversion and sewage releases from the town of High River.

STATUS:

DFO has indicated it will be initiating EARP for the proposal and will conduct an initial assessment. Alberta recently released Terms of Reference for the development of an EIA for the proposal.

FUTURE STATUS:

DFO has indicated it will request assistance from DOE as a department with specialist knowledge. IWD will continue to provide the point of contact with DFO, coordinate DOE's input to DFO, and keep the EACC informed as to the status of the proposal.

Prepared by:	D.J. Munro	Lead:	IWD
Phone:	(306) 780-6544	Contact:	D.J. Munro
Originated:	January 14, 1991	Phone:	(306) 780-6544
Updated:	December 16, 1991		

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4534 Buffalo Lake Stabilization, Alix, Alberta

BACKGROUND:

The Government of Alberta has proposed the Buffalo Lake Stabilization Project to stabilize the lake level between the elevation of 780.5 and 781.0 m. This lake level stabilization is intended to improve recreational attractiveness of the lake and allow for the orderly development of the shoreline. Water would be pumped from the Red Deer River through a pipeline and canal system to Alix Lake. From Alix Lake, diverted water would flow down Parlby Creek to Buffalo Lake. The maximum pumping rate would be 2.1 m^3/s, which would occur during the ice-free months.

KEY ISSUES:

As Buffalo Lake is saline, the introduction of water from the Red Deer River will result in the freshening of the lake. This, plus the physical increase in the lake level, may impact on fish and migratory bird habitat. Buffalo Lake also provided habitat for the endangered Piping Plover; this habitat could be effected by increased water levels.

STATUS:

An Environmental Impact Assessment of the proposal was released by Alberta in November, 1990. Alberta held public hearings as part of their review. DFO has initiated the federal EARP and is conducting an initial assessment of the proposal. DOE has reviewed Alberta's EIA and provided technical advice to DFO.

FUTURE ACTION:

IWD will continue to provide the point of contact for DFO in their initial assessment of this proposal and keep the EACC informed as to the status of the proposal.

Prepared by:	D.J. Munro (IWD)	Lead:	CWS
Phone:	(306) 780-6544	Contact:	T. Coleman
Originated:	January 14, 1991	Phone:	(403) 468-8939
Updated:	December 16, 1991		

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4561 Three Sisters Golf Resort Inc., Canmore, Alberta

BACKGROUND:

A large number of resort developments are proposed for the Bow Corridor adjacent to Banff National Park. The Alberta government has identified the area as having prime potential for tourism growth and resort development.

KEY ISSUES:

The lack of a comprehensive information base, uncoordinated planning and independent impact assessments for these major tourist developments have the potential to seriously affect the integrity of transboundary national park ecosystems eg. - wildlife, and to substantially increase the use of some park facilities.

STATUS:

As a result of the Supreme Court Oldman Dam decision, there will not be a FEARO or EARP role in the project review. Alberta's NRCB will hold public hearings about the Three Sisters project proposal in Canmore on June 15, 1992. DOE with CPS as lead, is registered as an intervenor. CWS, as coordinator for C&P input, is assisting CPS to review data and to prepare a position.

FUTURE ACTION:

CPS, with CWS assistance, prepares a position, and presents same to the NRCB hearings.

Prepared by: B. Leeson
Phone: (403) 292-4438
Originated: April 3, 1992
Updated: May 1, 1992

Lead: CPS
Contact: B. Leeson
Phone: (403) 292-4438

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4445 Alberta Newsprint Corporation, Chemi-thermomechanical (CTMP) newsprint mill, Whitecourt

BACKGROUND:

This is a 220,000 finished metric tons per annum newsprint mill located approximately 10 km northwest of Whitecourt upstream of the Town of Whitecourt and the Millar Western mill. The mill is designed to handle a blend of 80% softwood and 20% hardwood in producing its pulp, but is presently using only softwood. At full production it is expected to generate 15,000 m^3 of wastewater daily.

KEY ISSUES:

Impacts on water quality and the fishery of the Athabasca River, especially with respect to cumulative impact on DO levels and nutrient concentration.

STATUS:

The project's EIA was reviewed by DOE under the Canada-Alberta agreement on EIA's. The mill began operation in August, 1990. DFO screened the project to fulfill its responsibilities under EARP. DOE provided DFO with expert advice under S.19 of the Order-In-Council.

The mill is contemplating changes in its wastewater treatment process which may lead to a one to two order of magnitude reduction of phosphorus in its effluent; thereby effectively countering concerns with respect to nutrient loadings on the Athabasca River.

FUTURE ACTION:

Subject to DFO request.

Prepared by: Fred Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004
Originated: March 18, 1991
Updated: January 10, 1992
Updated: March 17, 1992

Lead: EP (ADO)
Contact: Fred Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4606 Peerless Wood Preservers Contaminated Site

BACKGROUND:

This is a proposal to mitigate a long-term pentachlorophenol (PCP) contamination problem from the abandoned **Peerless Wood Preservers** site at Cayley, Alberta, 60 km south of Calgary. From 1958 to 1982 the site was used to pressure treat wood with PCP. An open sludge pond, soils and shallow groundwater are contaminated with PCP and other organic contaminants. Alberta Environment erected a chain link fence to restrict access and is conducting a risk assessment of the site, but the complete extent of the contamination has yet to be determined. Alberta Environment recently applied for federal funding under the National Contaminated Sites Program to mitigate the contamination.

KEY ISSUES:

Transportation, storage, handling, destruction of waste toxic materials. Release of bioremediation agents (modified or specially bred bacteria) into the environment, use of potentially contaminated ground water by nearby residents.

STATUS:

DOE has declared itself to be an Initiating department on this proposal under Section 6 (c) of the EARP Guidelines Order. No other government departments will be initiating on this proposal.

FUTURE ACTION:

The site is still being assessed for environmental risks and remediation options are being considered by Alberta Environment. Work has been initiated on site to eliminate the immediate hazards and to determine the potential for ground water contamination. A drilling program has delineated the soil profile in the area. An on-site waste water sump has been pumped into an on-site tank, lined with an impermeable plastic sheeting and plywood, and filled in with soil. This procedure eliminates the sump as a source of ground water contamination, and allows for future clean-up measures. Pipes, lumber, equipment, etc. on the site have been wrapped in plastic and stored on a concrete pad on the site. The entire site has been fenced.

DOE has been invoiced for payment for part of this work, after reviewing the data produced, and announcing his screening decision, the payment has been authorized by Roy Nixon, Regional Coordinator, National Contaminated Sites Cleanup Program.

Prepared by:	Miles Constable	Lead:	EP (ADO)
Phone:	(403) 468-8005	Contact:	Roy Nixon
Originated:	June 14, 1991	Phone:	(403) 468-8032
Updated:	October 8, 1991		
Updated:	January 10, 1992 (P. Erickson)		

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4607 Purity 99 Refinery Contaminated Site

BACKGROUND:

This is a proposal to mitigate a long-term petroleum contamination problem from the abandoned Purity 99 Refinery site near Hartell, 43 km south of Calgary. From 1939 to 1961 the site was a large Gulf oil refinery producing gasoline, diesel fuel, kerosene, light fuel oil, heavy fuel oil and liquified petroleum gas (LPG). The site was "decommissioned" in 1974 and the ERCB constructed a dyke to keep oil seeps from contaminating Tongue Creek. In 1978 Alberta Environment conducted a site survey and provided recommendations for remediation but no action was taken. Part of the site was, until recently, inhabited; Alberta Health declared the area unfit for human habitation and the owners of the property are suing Alberta Environment for compensation. Alberta Environment recently applied for federal funding under the National Contaminated Sites Cleanup Program to mitigate the contamination.

KEY ISSUES:

Contamination of Tongue Creek, damage to fish or fish habitat; transportation, storage, handling, destruction of waste toxic materials.

STATUS:

Alberta Environment has only conducted some site assessment work. DOE has not declared itself to be an initiating department for this project as it is not eligible for funding under the National Contaminated Sites Cleanup Program until some site remediation work or technology demonstration work is done.

FUTURE ACTION:

None planned until some remediation or technology demonstration work is completed.

Prepared by:	Miles Constable	Lead:	EP (ADO)
Phone:	(403) 468-8005	Contact:	Roy Nixon
Originated:	June 14, 1991	Phone:	(403) 468-8032
Updated:	October 8, 1991		
Updated:	January 10, 1992 (Pauline Erikson)		

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4608 Canada Creosote Contaminated Site

BACKGROUND:

This is a proposal to mitigate a long-term creosote contamination problem of the Bow River resulting from the underground migration of creosote over the past 30 years from an abandoned Canada Creosote Company site on the south bank of the Bow River west of downtown Calgary. Presently, two car dealerships and the Bow Trail occupy the site. Alberta Environment has been attempting to prevent the creosote from entering the river for several years and recently applied for federal funding under the National Contaminated Sites Cleanup Program to mitigate the contamination.

KEY ISSUES:

Contamination of the Bow River with creosote; damage to fish or fish habitat; blockage of a navigable waterway; transportation, storage, handling, destruction of waste toxic materials; release of bio-remediation agents (modified or specially bred bacteria) into the environment.

STATUS:

Environment Canada (DOE), Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) and Transport Canada (Canadian Coast Guard - CCG) have declared themselves to be Initiating departments on this proposal under Sections 6(b) and 6(c) of the EARP Guidelines Order. DOE will be the Lead Initiator. Alberta District Office (ADO) has agreed to coordinate a departmental review of the EIA and Scientific Programs Branch (SPB) will make the screening decision. To date, Alberta Environment has not applied for a license under the Navigable Waters Protection Act due to a pending court decision on jurisdiction.

Alberta Environment invoiced DOE for partial payment of work that has been done to halt the contamination of the Bow River and to do some research into gravel washing. Information was received DOE and DFO and a screening decision on the construction of the berm, the removal of contaminated gravels and the testing and analysis of cleanup technologies by the Alberta Research Council was made. Payment of the invoices has been authorized by Roy Nixon, Regional Coordinator, National Contaminated Sites Cleanup Program.

Alberta Environment implemented and completed a pilot plant gravel washing project in October, 1991. ADO has received information on this project and will coordinate the departmental review. A screening decision on this project will then be made by EP (SPB).

FUTURE ACTION:

The site is still being assessed for environmental risks and remediation options and technology demonstration projects are being considered by Alberta Environment. DOE will continue to review any information dealing with the project and any remediation work or technology demonstration projects associated with the clean-up.

Prepared by:	Miles Constable	Lead:	EP (ICS)
Phone:	(403) 468-8005	Contact:	Roy Nixon
Originated:	June 14, 1991	Phone:	(403) 468-8032
Updated:	July 11, 1991		
Updated:	October 8, 1991		
Updated:	January 10, 1992 (Pauline Erickson)		

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4438 Weldwood Pulpmill Expansion

BACKGROUND:

The project consists of an expansion and modernization of the bleached kraft pulp mill at Hinton that has operated since 1957. With the expansion, production will increase from 565 adt/d to 1,100 adt/d. The modernization consists of addition of oxygen prebleaching, improved brown-stock washing, and addition of an R-8 ClO_2 generator (allowing 100% substitution). Alteration of the wastewater treatment system includes an addition of 16 aerators in the lagoon, and a cooling water bypass.

KEY ISSUES:

Potential impacts on water quality and the fishery of the Athabasca River, expecially with respect to cumulative impacts on dissolved oxygen levels, chlorinated organics, dioxins/furans, and nutrients. Possible impact from sulphur deposition from air emissions.

STATUS:

The project's EIA was reviewed by DOE under the Canada-Alberta agreement on EIA's in 1988. The expansion/modernization came on-line in 1990. DFO initiated screening of the project in 1991, to fulfil its responsibilities under the EARP Guidelines Order. DOE responded to DFO's request for S.19 advice on October 17, 1991, indicating that the mill was expected to meet the Pulp and Paper Effluent Regulations, but that the impacts on the receiving environment from the wastewater discharge needed to be studied further to determine whether the project was having a significant adverse effect.

FUTURE ACTION:

Subject to DFO request for advice under the EARP Guidelines Order.

Prepared by:	F. Zaal	Lead:	EP (ADO)
Phone:	(403) 468-8004	Contact:	F. Zaal
Originated:	January 10, 1992	Phone:	(403) 468-8004

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4463 Slave Lake Pulp Company bleached Chemi-thermomechanical pulp (BCTMP) mill, Slave Lake, Alberta

BACKGROUND:

This is a 350 tonne per day aspen-based BCTMP mill located about 15 km. east of the town of Slave Lake. The project's EIA was reviewed by DOE under the Canada-Alberta agreement on EIA's. The mill began operation in December, 1990. DFO screened the project to fulfil its responsibilities under EARP and received DOE expert advice under Section 19 of the Order-in-Council.

KEY ISSUES:

Impacts on water quality and the fishery of the Lesser Slave and Athabasca Rivers, especially with respect to cumulative impact on dissolved oxygen levels and nutrient levels.

STATUS:

The mill began operation in December, 1990 and has experienced problems with its wastewater treatment system. The effect of these problems on their wastewater quality is under investigation by the Alberta Department of Environment.

FUTURE ACTION:

Subject to DFO request.

Prepared by: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004
Originated: March 18, 1991
Updated: January 10, 1992

Lead: EP (ADO)
Contact: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4616 Kan-Alta Golf Management Limited, Proposed Golf Course Development, Kananaskis Country

BACKGROUND:

This proposal is for a world class 18-hole golf course and associated club house facilities, maintenance facilities, access road and utilities on 313 acres located about 1 kilometre south of the Kananaskis Country Golf Course and on the east side of Highway 40.

KEY ISSUES:

Potential for fish habitat alteration from riparian development along Evan Thomas Creek; potential impact on water quantity and water quality from land use changes (irrigation, fertilizing, pesticide use) and wastewater disposal; possible impact on migratory birds, wildlife and habitat. The cumulative impacts of this and other developments in the Bow River corridor have the potential for significant impact on the environmental resources of the area.

STATUS:

DFO has declared itself to be an Initiator for this project under the EARP Guidelines Order and requested DOE's advice on the potential environmental effects associated with the project. DOE reviewed the EIA for the proposed golf course development, and advised DFO that there were information deficiencies on wildlife use of the area, Evan Thomas Creek water quantity and quality, fishery and area hydrogeology precluding an evaluation of the potential significance of environmental effects from the project.

FUTURE ACTION:

A decision on DOE's status under the EARP Guidelines Order with respect to wildlife interests needs to be made. Upon redress of the deficiencies noted to DFO, review again.

Prepared by: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004
Originated: January 21, 1992

Lead: EP (ADO)
Contact: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4564 - Aspen Ranches Ltd., Eagle Lake Recreational Development, east of Calgary, Alberta

BACKGROUND:

Aspen Ranches Ltd. has proposed to redevelop its property adjoining Eagle Lake. The proposal includes the diversion of natural flow around the lake, draw down of Eagle Lake to accomodate shoreline development and subsequent replacement and freshening of the lake water with water from the Lethbridge Northern Irrigation Canal. The development will consist of an 18 hole golf course and the development of condominiums and cottages.

KEY ISSUES:

Draw down of Aspen Lake will result in the loss of the existing fisheries and temporary loss of waterfowl and shore bird habitat. Impacts are likely to occur to the water quality downstream due to the draw down of saline lake water. This could effect water quality conditions on the adjacent Siksika Indian Reserve and into the Bow River.

STATUS:

DFO has identified itself as an initiating department for the project and is screening the project to fulfill its responsibilities under EARP. Expert advice has been provided by Environment Canada based on the Environmental Impact Assessment prepared by the proponent. A number of deficiencies were identified and DFO has requested these be addressed by the proponent.

FUTURE ACTION:

IWD will continue to provide the point of contact for DFO in their initial assessment of this proposal coordinate any further requests for specialist advice.

Prepared by: D.J. Munro
Phone: (306) 780-6544
Originated: February 7, 1992

Lead: IWD
Contact: D.J. Munro
Phone: (306) 780-6544

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4639 - Edmonton and Area Landfill - Proposed Elk Island Site (CPS)

BACKGROUND:

The Capital Region Waste Management Committee had been reconsidering the Shirley Lake site (adjacent to Elk Island National Park) as one of the three potential locations for a new regional landfill. The City of Edmonton requires a new landfill site by 1995. The Shirley Lake site was investigated, but rejected for negative environmental impact on Elk Island N.P., in 1987.

KEY ISSUES:

A landfill site for a community of 750,000 people would have significant deleterious impacts on the natural resources, water quality, appearance and aesthetics of Elk Island National Park if it were to be located adjacent to the park boundary, as has been proposed.

STATUS:

1. There is no FEARO/EARP role, as a result of legal interpretation of the Supreme Court Oldman Dam ruling.

2. CPS ADM has written to the Chairman of the Capital Region Waste Management Committee to state our objections, with reasons, to the Shirley Lake site. The ADM requested the Shirley Lake site be dropped from further consideration. There has been no response.

3. The City of Edmonton is proceeding with studies of other sites, not including the Shirley Lake site.

4. The County of Strathcona decided to delay voting on a motion to officially drop the Shirley Lake site from further consideration, on April 7, 1992.

5. The County will await the results of investigations by their Public Advisory Committee before taking any further decisions about landfill sites. CPS will make a presentation to the PAC on May 9, 1992.

FUTURE ACTION:

Await the outcome of the Strathcona County Public Advisory Committee work before forming further strategy.

Prepared by: B. Leeson
Phone: (403) 292-4438
Originated: April 3, 1992
Updated: May 1, 1992

Lead: CPS
Contact: B. Leeson
Phone: (403) 292-4438

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4639 - Edmonton and Area Landfill - Proposed two (of three) sites: CFB Namao and the Colchester Site in southeast Edmonton (EP ADO)

BACKGROUND:

A new landfill site for the City of Edmonton will have to be located by 1995, by which time the existing one will reach maximum capacity. The City of Edmonton, together with mayors and reeves of surrounding communities, have been seeking a new site. Any site must be approved by the local Board of Health, and the design must be approved by Alberta Environment. A previous proposal, proposed for the Aurum site in Edmonton, involved an integrated waste management site, including provisions for recycling, and incorporating measures such as a secure liner to prevent migration of leachate into surrounding soil or ground water. EP coordinated the provision of comments from federal departments on terms of reference for an EIA to be prepared by the proponent. Three sites are now being proposed: one is in Strathcona county and is immediately adjacent to Elk Island National Park; another is near the CFB Base at Namao; and another (the Colchester site) is in the southeast part of Edmonton. However, there is as yet no firm project proposal or project description, apart from the designation of the three candidate sites.

KEY ISSUES:

- potential risk of aircraft-bird collisions for aircraft taking off or landing at CFB, Namao;
- potential effects on fish/fish habitat in stream adjacent to Namao site.

STATUS:

1. Parks agreed to be the DOE lead in respect to the Strathcona (Elk Island) site (only). The matter was discussed with DND in December, 1991, and they have acknowledged that they are the lead in the Namao site. DOT has expressed no concerns. There are no known federal concerns at the Colchester site, therefore there is no federal lead identified.
2. As window into the federal government, EP (Alberta District Office) sent copies of the concept paper, developed by the Landfill Search Committee for the three sites, to federal government departments potentially concerned, including DND, DOT and DFO. EP identified contact points for these departments, and conveyed them to CPS, in order to facilitate communication among federal departments if the sites were reviewed simultaneously.
3. As window-in, EP wrote a letter to Alberta Environment, establishing that the concept document was being taken as a "proposal" by federal departments for the purposes of EARP.
4. If requested, EP will provide specialist advice to Parks, and to any other department that declares itself as initiator and requests S.19 advice.

FUTURE ACTION:

No action at this time. DND is federal lead for Namao site. No known federal concerns regarding the Colchester site.

Prepared by	Bruce Thompson	Lead:	EP (ADO)
Phone:	(403) 468-8006	Contact:	B. Thompson
Originated:	March 17, 1992	Phone:	(403) 468-8006

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4476-1 Chem-Security Ltd., Proposed expansion of the Alberta Special Waste Treatment Centre (ASWTC)

BACKGROUND:

Chem-Security Ltd. proposes an expansion and upgrading of its treatment facility at the existing ASWTC in Swan Hills, Alberta. The proposed expansion will increase the incineration capacity from 15,000 tonnes of waste per year to about 40,000-45,000 tonnes per year. Commission and start-up are planned for the spring of 1993.

The expansion will consist of the installation of a two-stage incinerator, comprising a rotary kiln and a secondary combustion chamber, a multi-stage air pollution control train and an enclosed waste receiving and feed system. An expanded infrastructure, including transportation network, monitoring programs and emergency response will also be developed.

KEY ISSUES:

- release of PCBs into the environment; increased emissions of PCBs from the existing plant have been detected and DOE concerns relate to possible increases of these levels due to operations after expansion.
- air contaminant emissions from incineration.
- effects of emissions, spills, leaks, failure of stormwater or landfill liners on ground water and surface water resources.
- effects of expansion activities and operation on fisheries resources and wildlife and habitat.
- solid waste/hazardous waste management.

STATUS:

The EIA was completed in June, 1991 and sent to DOE for review. DOE is performing a technical assessment of the project. The Alberta Natural Resources Conservation Board (NRCB) is presently conduction public hearings on the proposed expansion.

FUTURE ACTION

If the NRCB or the proponent requests the technical assessment, it will be made available to them. If significant concerns are raised in the assessment, these will be conveyed to the NRCB before the public hearings resume on March 26.

Prepared by:	P. Erickson	Lead:	EP (ADO)
Originated:	January 9, 1991	Contact:	P. Erickson
Phone:	(403) 468-8005	Phone:	(403) 468-8005
Updated:	August 28, 1991		
Updated:	March 17, 1992		

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4409: Milk River Dam; Alberta; Agriculture Canada (PFRA)

BACKGROUND:

Construction of a dam on the Milk River has been proposed by Alberta Environment. The dam would be 41.5 metres high, 620 metres long and the forebay would encompass 1,853 hectares. The dam would be used as a storage reservoir for irrigation purposes, and would secure Canada's rightful share of water from the Milk River basin. Construction of this $30 million dam would enable irrigation of an additional 6,000 hectares, and provide a guaranteed water source for domestic and livestock use. The proposed dam site is 4 km downstream from the confluence of the North Milk and Milk Rivers, and about 14 km west of the town of Milk River. The environmentally important and sensitive Milk River Canyon is located 110 km downstream from the reservoir site. No licence would be required under the International River Improvement Act.

KEY ISSUES:

Water quality and accurate measurements of water quantity will be key issues under the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909, and the 1921 order of the International Joint Commission. The Milk River Valley is also the only location in Canada where many plant, insect, reptile and fish species specifically adapted to an arid ecosystem are known to occur. Impact of the proposed dam on rare or threatened species and the riparian plant community in the Milk River Canyon could also be issues.

STATUS:

Alberta Environment has completed several reports related to this project and is planning additional studies on water quality, biological resources and archaeological sites. Environment Canada reviewed nine reports related to this project and provided comments to Alberta Environment on August 27, 1987.

May 12, 1988 EACC Meeting: IWD advises that project is INACTIVE.

FUTURE ACTION:

IWD will continue to assess quality and quantity of water in the Milk River at the eastern boundary crossing, and the EACC will review EIA reports as required.

Prepared by: D.B. Donald
Phone: (306) 780-6544

Originated: January 22, 1986
Updated: July 05, 1986
Updated: November 24, 1986
Updated: January 29, 1987
Updated: January 20, 1988
Updated: May 12, 1988
Updated: January 15, 1990 (no change)
Updated: August 30, 1990 (no change)
Updated: November 27, 1990 (no change)
Updated: January 14, 1991 (no change)
Updated: December 16, 1991 (no change)

Lead: IWD
Contact: D.J. Munro
Phone: (306) 780-6544

PROJECT INACTIVE

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

SASKATCHEWAN

ACTIVE PROJECTS:

NW-7146	Cigar Lake Test Mine (EP)
NW-958	CAMECO, Collins Bay, Eagle Point Mines (EP)
NW-971	McClean Lake (Wolly Project) (EP)
NW-917	Midwest Mine; Denison Mines Limited (EP)
NW-7269	Millar Western Pulp Ltd.; Meadow Lake CTMP Pulp Mill (EP)
NW-970	Dominique-Janine Mine (EP)
NW-7156-1	Rafferty and Alameda Dams (IWD)
NW-7313	Battle Creek Dam (IWD)
NW-7314	Claude Resources - Seabee gold project (EP)
NW-7327	SaskPower, Proposed Brada to Meadow Lake 230 kv transmission line (CWS)
NW-7332	Ash Storage Site - Shand Thermal Generating Plant (EP)
NW-7362	Weyerhaeuser Canada Ltd., Effluent diffuser replacement, Prince Albert (EP)
NW-7363	CAMECO Ltd., McArthur River Ore Deposit (EP)
NW-7311-1	TransCanada Pipelines - Expansion of the company's natural gas pipeline facilities (1992), Saskatchewan/Manitoba (CWS)
NW-7360	Mistic Management - 20 year Forest Management Plan (CWS/RFSC)
NW-7364	SaskPower 72 kv power line - La Ronge (CWS)
NW-7368	International Minerals and Chemical Corporation (Canada) Limited - Potash mine, Esterhazy (CWS)

INACTIVE PROJECTS:

NW-7307	WED - Pound Maker Ethanol Plant, Lanigan (EP)
NW-7322	University of Saskatchewan - Slowpoke Nuclear Reactor (EP)
NW-7094	CAMECO, Beaverlodge Mine Decommissioning (EP)
NW-7309	CAMECO, Hanson Lake Copper/Zinc mine and mill project (DFO)
NW-7361	Jans Bay Biomass Project (EP)

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7146: Cigar Lake Test Mine; Cigar Lake Mining Development Corporation; Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

This project was previously called Waterbury Lake, SERU, and COGEMA. The uranium deposit, which is the richest found to date in Saskatchewan, averages 14 percent uranium, with proven reserves of 130 million kilograms; inferred reserves are 45 million kilograms, at a lower grade of 4 percent. The Cigar Lake Mining Corporation was formed to manage the development of a mine and to ensure that provincial and federal requirements are met. If developed, this will be the largest uranium mine in the world.

KEY ISSUES:

Potential large scale environmental impacts, including release of radioactive elements, terrain disturbances and disruption of fish and wildlife resources.

STATUS:

During 1987 the Regional Mining Committee reviewed the Environmental Impact Statement for a test mine. Approval to proceed was received from the Atomic Energy Control Board and Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety. Test mining commenced early in 1988. Cigar Lake Mining Development Corporation has implemented an environmental monitoring program for the test mine in consultation with the regulatory agencies. Test mining is scheduled to be completed in 1992. The Cigar Lake Mining Corporation anticipates having a feasibility study and EIS completed in 1993.

FUTURE ACTION:

EIS to be prepared by mid-1993. The Cigar Lake mining proposal will be one of the last five in northern Saskatchewan to be reviewed using a joint federal/provincial process. The five member panel was announced August 22, 1991.

Prepared by:	Dennis Lawson	Lead:	EP
Originated:	October 1, 1985	Contact:	P. Dugandzic
Updated:	December 19, 1985	Phone:	(306) 780-6078
Updated:	February 12, 1986		
Updated:	January 16, 1987		
Updated:	November 17, 1987		
Updated:	November 6, 1989		
Updated:	November 5, 1990 (D. Lawson/P. Dugandzic)		
Updated:	January 2, 1991 (no change) (P. Dugandzic)		
Updated:	August 19, 1991 (no change) (P. Dugandzic)		
Updated:	December 10, 1991 (P. Dugandzic)		

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-958: Collins Bay - Eagle Point Mines; CAMECO (formerly Eldorado Resources Limited) Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

CAMECO, a Canadian Mining and Energy Corporation, through its Rabbit Lake Operation, operates the Rabbit Lake/Collins Bay uranium mine and mill facilities near Wolaston Lake in northern Saskatchewan. The original Rabbit Lake mine operated from 1975 until 1984. Currently the Rabbit Lake mill is shut down, but has been processing ore from the Collins Bay B-zone deposit. However, this deposit will be mined out by 1991. Three neighbouring uranium deposits have been approved for future mining under the provincial impact assessment process. Decommissioning studies of the Rabbit Lake mine and tailings are underway. The mined-out Rabbit Lake pit is being used to dispose of tailings from the B-zone mine and future mines. EP provided input to the AECB on licensing of the pit-disposal system which was also approved under the provincial impact assessment process.

KEY ISSUES:

Release of radioactive elements and heavy metals. All three future mines are partially under the waters of Collins Bay and there could be considerable public concern.

STATUS:

CAMECO has suspended seeking licensing approval from the Atomic Energy Control Board (AECB) and Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety (SEPS) to produce uranium from the two small deposits - the Collins Bay A-zone and D-zone. These deposits could be mined in less than two years. The company has been licensed for full scale test mining at Eagle Point, a larger deposit which could be mined into the next century, pending the results of further underground exploration. The final Environmental Impact Statement for all 3 mines for full scale production, was reviewed by the Regional Mining Sub-Committee. Approval to proceed under the Provincial review process, was granted early in 1988. Test mining of the Eagle Point deposit commenced early in 1991. A and D zones are commercially viable, development plans have been indefinitely postponed. This project has been referred to the Minister of the Environment for public review by a federal panel in accordance with the federal Environmental Assessment and Review Process Guidelines Order and will be assessed separately from the 5 uranium mining proposals to be reviewed by the joint federal/provincial panel.

FUTURE ACTION:

DOE is expecting to initiate a review of the CAMECO Eagle Point EIS in mid-January, 1992. DOE will prepare a submission to the federal panel. Provincial approval has been received and the federal panel review will be separate from the review of five additional proposals under a joint federal/provincial process. The federal panel was announced August 11, 1991.

Prepared by:	Dennis Lawson	Lead:	EP
Phone:	(306) 780-6462	Contact:	P. Dugandzic
Originated:	January 16, 1987	Phone:	(306) 780-6078
Updated:	November 5, 1990 (D. Lawson/P. Dugandzic)		
Updated:	January 2, 1991 (no change) (P. Dugandzic)		
Updated:	August 19, 1991 (P. Dugandzic)		
Updated:	December 10, 1991 (P. Dugandzic)		

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-971: McClean Lake Ore Deposit - Wolly Project; Minatco Ltd.; Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

Discovery of this uranium deposit in 1978 was followed by five years of baseline environmental monitoring from 1979 to 1983. Each of the five separate reports was individually reviewed by the Regional Mining Committee. Preliminary estimates indicate 18 million kg of ore averaging 3% U_3O_8. The company received comments from the regulatory agencies during 1988 on a proposed minewater treatment scheme. The company plans to secure a milling contract or design its own mill.

KEY ISSUES:

Release of radionuclides to the terrestrial and aquatic environments.

STATUS:

Guidelines for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement were developed by Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety. Test mining has not been considered. The development of this deposit could parallel that of the Midwest deposit.

FUTURE ACTION:

DOE is expecting to initiate a review of the McClean Lake EIS in early January, 1992. DOE will prepare a submission to the joint federal/provincial panel. The McClean Lake proposal will be one of the first three of five uranium mining proposals to be reviewed under a joint federal/provincial review process. The five member panel was announced August 22, 1991.

Prepared by:	Dennis Lawson	Lead:	EP
Phone:	(306) 780-6462	Contact:	P. Dugandzic
Originated:	November 17, 1987	Phone:	(306) 780-6078
Updated:	January 19, 1989		
Updated:	November 6, 1989		
Updated:	November 5, 1990 (D. Lawson/P. Dugandzic)		
Updated:	January 2, 1991 (P. Dugandzic)		
Updated:	April 4, 1991 (P. Dugandzic)		
Updated:	August 19, 1991 (P. Dugandzic)		
Updated:	December 10, 1991 (P. Dugandzic)		

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-917: Midwest Mine; Denison Mines Limited; Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

The Midwest uranium deposit, briefly referred to as the Saskatchewan North Ore deposit by its current owners, was discovered in 1978. Drilling has substantiated reserves of more than 19 million kg of uranium grading about 4.5% U_3O_8. The company has completed test mining and is currently assessing the economic feasibility of the project.

KEY ISSUE:

Release of radionuclides to the terrestrial and aquatic environments.

STATUS:

During 1988 the Regional Mining Committee reviewed an EIS for test mining. The proposal made reference to the earlier three volume Environmental Impact Statement, EIS Summary and eleven Supporting Documents of the previous operator, Canada Wide Mines Ltd., which were reviewed in 1982. Regulatory approvals were received in 1988 and test mining was completed in October, 1989. The company has recently submitted a proposal for full scale mining. Guidelines for the preparation of an EIS were prepared by Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety.

FUTURE ACTION:

DOE is expecting to initiate a review of the Midwest EIS in late December, 1991. DOE will prepare a submission to the joint federal/provincial panel. The Midwest proposal will be one of the first three of five uranium mining proposals to be reviewed under a joint federal/provincial review process. The five member panel was announced August 22, 1991.

Prepared by:	Dennis Lawson	Lead:	EP
Phone:	(306) 780-6462	Contact:	P. Dugandzic
Originated:	November 17, 1987	Phone:	(306) 780-6078
Updated:	January 19, 1989		
Updated:	November 6, 1989		
Updated:	November 5, 1990(D. Lawson/P. Dugandzic)		
Updated:	January 2, 1991 (P. Dugandzic)		
Updated:	April 4, 1991 (P. Dugandzic)		
Updated:	August 19, 1991 (P. Dugandzic)		
Updated:	December 10, 1991 (P. Dugandzic)		

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7269: Millar Western Pulp Ltd.; Meadow Lake CTMP Pulp Mill; Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

Millar Western has proposed the construction of a pulp mill 9.5 km east of the town of Meadow Lake. The mill will produce bleached pulp, using nonchlorine bleaching agents. The mill will produce 240,000 tonnes of aspen pulp per year. Wood will be obtained from timber supply areas which NorSask Forest Products Inc. has the cutting rights to. NorSask is partly owned by Millar Western Industries Ltd. which is the parent company of Millar Western Pulp Ltd.

KEY ISSUES:

The mill is to be sited on a river system which offers very little dilution capacity; natural flow in the proposed receiving river (Meadow River) during the winter is sometimes non-existent. For this reason a sophisticated wastewater treatment system has been proposed which will result in zero discharge of liquid effluent. There is some question about the efficiency of treatment method and about atmospheric emissions.

Other major concerns include aquatic impacts, the sustainability of the wood harvesting, environmental impacts associated with the harvesting operation, and Indian Reserves possibly affected by the effluent discharge.

STATUS:

A federal technical review of the EIS, completed in March 1990, resulted in the recommendation to the province that the EIS was unacceptable and that the EIS should be rewritten to address the major deficiencies. Fisheries and Oceans has invoked the federal process.
DFO sent to EP (SDO) for review, a description of the sewage treatment process provided by the company. EP sent the document back to DFO as it was felt that there was insufficient information provided to conduct a review. Additional information was received and is being reviewed by Environment Canada. The company is withholding test results on the grounds that is is proprietary information.

FUTURE ACTION:

Respond to Fisheries and Oceans requests to review additional information as required.

Prepared by: J. Harrison
Phone: (306) 780-6465
Originated: October 20, 1989
Updated: January 2, 1991
Updated: January 24, 1991
Updated: July 19, 1991 (D. Waite)
Updated: August 21, 1991 (D. Waite)

Lead: EP (SDO)
Contact: D. Waite
Phone: (306) 780-6438

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-970: Dominique-Janine Mine; Amok Ltd.; Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

Amok Ltd. operates, on behalf of Cluff Mining, uranium mining and milling facilities at Cluff Lake in northwestern Saskatchewan. The Cluff Lake Operations have been ongoing since 1980, with the mining of the D and Claude Pits, O-P Underground Orebody, and the Dominique-Peter Underground Orebody. Cluff Mining's latest open pit operation, involving the Claude Orebody, was completed in August 1989. The D-pit has been closed but underground mining is continuing and the first phase of a new open pit (Dominique-Janine) commenced in 1990. The Dominique-Janine Orebody is being considered for future development. The company initially proposes to construct a dam across Cluff Lake, drain the northern part of the lake and divert inflowing streams around the lake.

KEY ISSUES:

Release of radionuclides and heavy metals to the terrestrial and aquatic environments.

STATUS:

Cluff Mining has submitted a proposal for future open-pit mining of the Dominique-Janine deposit. Preliminary estimates are that the orebody contains 5.9 million kg of uranium distributed in three zones. The more northerly zone is currently being mined by open-pit. This zone contains 2.2 million kg of uranium at an average grade of 0.35%. Approval was given to mine the first zone as part of an earlier EIA.

FUTURE ACTION:

DOE is expecting to initiate a review of the AMOK EIS in early January, 1992. DOE will prepare a submission to the joint federal/provincial panel. The AMOK proposal will be one of the first three of five uranium mining proposals to be reviewed under a joint federal/provincial review process. The five member panel was announced August 22, 1991.

Prepared by:	Dennis Lawson	Lead:	EP
Phone:	(306) 780-6462	Contact:	P. Dugandzic
Originated:	February 20, 1989	Phone:	(306) 780-6078
Updated:	November 6, 1989		
Updated:	November 5, 1990 (D. Lawson/P. Dugandzic)		
Updated:	January 2, 1991 (P. Dugandzic)		
Updated:	April 4, 1991 (P. Dugandzic)		
Updated:	August 19, 1991 (P. Dugandzic)		
Updated:	December 10, 1991 (P. Dugandzic)		

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7156-1 Rafferty and Alameda Dams; Souris Basin Development Authority; Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety.

BACKGROUND:

Saskatchewan has proposed to construct two dams in the Souris River basin, Rafferty Dam near Estevan and Alameda dam near Oxbow which will be used for flood protection, recreation, and irrigation. The Rafferty Dam will also provide cooling water for the Shand power plant. American funding has been secured for this project to alleviate flood damage in North Dakota.

KEY ISSUES:

As the Souris River is an international river, federal obligations exist pursuant to the International River Improvements Act (IRIA), the Boundary Water Treaty; additional obligations are pursuant to the Navigable Waters Protection Act, and the Fisheries Act. The federal issues of prime interest are water quality, waterfowl mitigation and public safety.

STATUS:

The provincial completed an EIS in 1987 which was reviewed by the Government of Canada and comments provided to Saskatchewan. An IRIA licence was issued by the Minister of the Environment in 1988. In April, 1989, the Federal Court ruled in favour of the Canadian Wildlife Federation quashing the IRIA licence and ordered compliance with the EARP Guidelines Order in considering the application for the licence. DOE completed an IEE, concluding significant impacts could be mitigated and re-issued an IRIA licence. In December 1989, the Federal Court ordered that a panel be established to review the significant impacts identified in the IEE. Public hearings were held in June, 1991 and the Panel's report was released on September 10. DOE is preparing a response to the Panel's report. However, the Court has ruled the Panel did not fulfill its court ordered responsibility and therefore the report does not exist. This has delayed completion of the response to the Panel.

FUTURE ACTION:

IWD will lead the preparation of a response to the Panel, or further input to the Panel, pending the appeal of the latest court ruling.

Prepared by: D.J. Munro
Phone: (306) 780-6544

Originated: September 1985 (J. Harrison, EP)
Updated: December 19, 1985
Updated: February 14, 1986
Updated: July 9, 1986
Updated: November 5, 1986
Updated: January 29, 1987
Updated: November 20, 1987
Updated: January 2, 1990
Updated: November 6, 1990
Updated: January 14, 1991 (no change)
Updated: August 9, 1991
Updated: December 16, 1991

Lead: IWD
Contact: R.A. Halliday
Phone: (306) 780-5319

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7313 Battle Creek Dam

BACKGROUND:

Saskatchewan is proposing the construction of a small dam on Battle Creek, immediately upstream of International Boundary. The proposed dam is a $3.9 million project that will store 5000 dam^3 and will flood about 130 hectares. Funding for the project would include $2.5 million from the Canada-Saskatchewan Agreement on Irrigation Based Economic Development (SIBED), administered federally by Agriculture Canada.

KEY ISSUES:

Although this is a provincial project it will effect and/or fall within a number of areas of federal responsibilities and therefore is subject to the Environmental Assessment and Review Process (EARP). These areas include:

- Agriculture Canada funding from the SIBED;
- Battle Creek is an international stream, flowing into Montana before joining the Milk River. As a result, the project is subject to the International River Improvements Act;
- Battle Creek is a navigable water course as defined by the Navigable Waters Protection Act and therefore must obtain a permit under this act from Transport Canada; and
- other federal interests including migratory birds and fisheries may be impacted by this project.

STATUS:

On September 4, 1991, it was announced by the federal and provincial governments that the project would proceed subject to federal and provincial environmental review. Studies are now underway to assess environmental impacts of the proposal.

FUTURE ACTION:

IWD will continue to act as the DOE contact for the development and review of the EIS which is to be prepared jointly by Agriculture Canada and Saskatchewan.

Prepared by:	D.J. Munro	Lead:	IWD
Phone:	(306) 780-6544	Contact:	D.J. Munro
Originated:	May 10, 1990	Phone:	(306) 780-6544
Updated:	November 6, 1990		
Updated:	January 14, 1991 (no change)		
Updated:	August 8, 1991		
Updated:	December 16, 1991		

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7314 Claude Resources - Seabee Gold Project, Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

This project involves the development of a 400 tonnes/day underground gold mining and milling operation for the Seabee property at Laonil Lake, located 120 km northeast of La Ronge, Saskatchewan. Because the facility proposes to use the cyanidation process for gold recovery, it will be exempted from the existing Fisheries Act Metal Mining Liquid Effluent Regulations (MMLER). The treatment of the mill effluent is based on natural degradation in the East Lake tailings pond and in the East Pond polishing pond.

KEY ISSUES:

The potential impact of contaminated ground and surface water on Laonil Lake is unknown. This lake contains lake trout, northern pike, white suckers and possibly whitefish. The importance of East Lake (proposed tailings pond) to fish resources in Laonil Lake needs to be assessed.

STATUS:

DFO concluded its initial assessment of the project pursuant to Section 12 of the federal EARP Guidelines Order on November 19, 1990. The screening decision was that the potentially adverse environmental effects that may be caused by the proposal are unknown, in which case the proposal would require further study by the proponent and subsequent re-screening by DFO. The proponent submitted a revised EIS (December, 1990). Environment Canada completed a technical review of the revised EIS and submitted comments to DFO. DFO has decided that additional environmental information and mitigation measures are required. At a meeting with the company in June, DFO and EC officials discussed issues which have yet to be addressed by the proponent. In October 1991, the company submitted an amendment to the December 1990 EIS which addressed DFO's environmental concerns.

FUTURE ACTION:

Environment Canada is currently reviewing the proponent's amendment to the December 1990 EIS and will provide comments to DFO. DFO will re-screen the project based on revised information provided by the proponent and technical comments provided by Environment Canada. Provincial approval to proceed with full scale mining has been received.

Prepared by:	Henry Majewski	Lead:	EP (SDO)
Phone:	(204) 983-5135	Contact:	P. Dugandzic
Originated:	January 4, 1991	Phone:	(306) 780-6078
Updated:	April 4, 1991 (G. Peregoodoff, EP, SDO)		
Updated:	May 26, 1991 (D. Waite)		
Updated:	August 21, 1991 (D. Waite)		
Updated:	December 10, 1991 (P. Dugandzic)		

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7327 Saskatchewan Power, Proposed Brada to Meadow Lake 230 kv transmission line

BACKGROUND:

Construction of a 200 km, 230 kv electrical transmission line from Brada to Meadow Lake. Service is primarily for the Millar Western pulp mill.

KEY ISSUES:

Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) is an Initiating Department; CWS prime concern is Whooping Crane migration and staging area; also Migratory Bird Sanctuaries are in the area. INAC involvement is due to Indian Reserves possibley being affected by construction. FC may have concerns.

STATUS:

DFO is collating comments (to be forwarded to Province of Saskatchewan) and will prepare a screening decision. CWS staff surveyed the site by air and ground in April. A meeting was held in Saskatoon on June 19/91 between the proponent and federal and provincial agencies to discuss mitigation measures. DFO, in their August 6, 1991 screening decision, have outlined mitiative procedures to be followed (EARP 12 (c) decision).

FUTURE ACTION:

Regional CWS staff in Saskatoon will cooperate to assist the proponent with the required mitigation and field study.

Prepared by: C. Rodger
Phone: (403) 468-8936

Originated: April 4, 1991
Updated: June 28, 1991
Updated: September 20, 1991
Updated: January 8, 1992 (No Change)

Lead: CWS
Contact: C. Rodger
Phone: (403) 468-8936

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7332 Saskatchewan Power Corporation - Ash Storage Site - Shand Thermal Generating Plant, Estevan

BACKGROUND:

In 1992, the Saskatchewan Power Corporation will start to produce ash waste from the Shand power plant.

KEY ISSUES:

Runoff; proximity to Souris River; leaching dust; bank stability.

STATUS:

On May 27, 1991 SEPS informed Sask Power that the ash storage site would require Ministerial approval under the Environmental Assessment Act. EP (SDO) forwarded to SEPS the technical review comments, received earlier as part of the initial assessment by DOE and DFO.

Saskatchewan officials advise the province wants to be sure that there can be no question that the provincial process was adhered to.

DFO had concluded the project would not have an effect on an area of federal responsibility under DFO's control.

FUTURE ACTION:

Review the EIS when received from SEPS.

Prepared by: D. Waite
Phone: (306) 780-6438
Originated: July 31, 1991
Updated: August 21, 1991

Lead: EP (SDO)
Contact: D. Waite
Phone: (306) 780-6438

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7362 Weyerhaeuser Canada Ltd., Effluent Diffuser Replacement, Prince Albert, Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

The Saskatchewan Water Quality Branch has asked for a review of pre-design study report for construction of a new effluent discharge structure in the North Saskatchewan River east of Prince Albert.

KEY ISSUES:

Saskatchewan and the company are concerned that the expected results are acceptable to federal agencies, particularly given the requirements of new federal regulations governing pulp and paper mills.

STATUS:

Saskatchewan was advised EC does not have "in-house" expertise on diffuser design but EC would review from point of view of potential changes to the river environment. Copies sent to SPB and IWD. A copy was provided to DFO which declared the project to be a proposal under the EARP Guidelines Order and that it would be an initiating Department.

FUTURE ACTION:

EC to provide technical advice to DFO.

Prepared by: D. Waite
Phone: (306) 780-6438
Originated: August 21, 1991

Lead: EP (SDO)
Contact: D. Waite
Phone: (306) 780-6438

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7363 CAMECO Ltd., McArthur River Ore Deposit, Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

The McArthur River project is located approximately half way between the Key Lake and Rabbit Lake mining operations in the Close-Yalowega Lakes area, northern Saskatchewan. The uranium deposit which grades 4% U_3O_8 was first discovered in 1989. Published reserves are 200 million pounds U_3O_8. The proposed project would involve underground mining the ore through a shaft and then transporting it to another facility for milling, possibly Key Lake. The McArther River Joint Venture is composed of six companies with CAMECO as operator.

KEY ISSUES:

Release of radionuclides to the terrestrial and aquatic environments.

STATUS:

CAMECO has recently submitted a project proposal to the regulatory agencies. Project specific EIS guidelines for the McArther River Project could be prepared by the joint federal/provincial panel prior to initiating reviews for the Midwest, McClean Lake and Amok EISs. This would allow the proponent time to prepare an EIS so that its completion would coincide with the panel's completion of the first three EIS reviews. CAMECO states that work has been started on preparing an Environmental Impact Statement and anticipates having an EIS completed in 1993.

FUTURE ACTION:

The EIS is to be prepared by early 1993. The McArthur River Mining proposal will be one of the last five in northern Saskatchewan to be reviewed using a joint federal/ provincial review process. The five member panel was announced August 22, 1991.

Prepared by:	Peter Dugandzic	Lead:	EP (SDO)
Phone:	(306) 780-6078	Contact:	P. Dugandzic
Originated:	August 20, 1991	Phone	(306) 780-6078
Updated:	December 10, 1991		

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7311-1 TransCanada Pipelines - Expansion of the company's natural gas pipeline facilities (1992), Saskatchewan/Manitoba (CWS)

BACKGROUND:

Pipeline facilities consist of compressor units and pipeline loops. A new pipeline is to be installed between fixed terminal points of the Interprovincial Mainline to increase the system's capacity. Most of this work is to take place in or immediately adjacent to the existing system easements. In some cases, additional easements up to 30 m in width may be required.

KEY ISSUES:

Problems may be associated with the use of some waterbodies as a source of water for hydrostatic testing (i.e. increased levels of total solids, iron, conductivity, total organics and turbidity, when water is discharged). A potential for chemical spills into fish-bearing waters exists (i.e. methanol, ethylene glycol and herbicides used for vegetation control). Crossing of streams could result in increased levels of sediments downstream. Sensitive wildlife habitats and species may be disturbed.

STATUS:

The work involved in this project may be similar to that dealt with in a 1990 project: NW-7311, TransCanada Pipelines - Expansion of the company's natural gas pipeline facilities (1991/1992), Saskatchewan; closed file. The proponent is currently preparing an EIA, which they expect to release during June, 1991. The EIA will be used by the proponent in its licensing application to the NEB. The proponent has been notified that DOE will try to satisfy any requests for baseline data that may be related to DOE's mandate, and that DOE is interested in being kept informed regarding the proposal. The DOE lead has been identified as CWS (G. McKeating). The Province of Saskatchewan and Manitoba have been informed of DOE's action and invited to contact DOE regarding it's approach to the proposal. Contacts are B. Howard (EP/SDO) and B. Briscoe (EP/MDO). Initiating departments include NEB and DFO.

FUTURE ACTION:

CWS will keep IWD, EP and DFO informed. EP (SDO and MDO) will communicate with respective Provinces if required.

Prepared by: Lutz Rauhe
Phone: (403) 468-8002
Originated: May 15, 1991
Updated: January 8, 1992 (No change)

Lead: CWS
Contact: T. Coleman
Phone (403) 468-8939

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7360 Mistic Management - 20 year Forest Management Plan (CWS)

BACKGROUND:

NorSask Forest Products Inc. cutting area is located in central Saskatchewan. In response to their notification by DFO on May 8, 1991, that their 20-year Forest Management Plan would be subjected to federal EARP, they have prepared a Table of Contents for their EIA and the Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety (SEPS), Environmental Assessment Branch has asked for federal input. DFO is coordinating federally.

KEY ISSUES:

Fisheries Act, Section 36.
Other areas of federal responsibility (DOE - CWS, IWD, AES, EP).

STATUS:

Review comments on the Table of Contents was provided to Saskatchewan Environmental Assessment Branch on July 12, 1991. The EIA has not been completed to date.

FUTURE ACTION:

Review forthcoming EIA.

Prepared by: R.D. Wickstrom
Phone: (204) 983-5261
Originated: January 10, 1992

Lead: CWS
Contact: R. D. Wickstrom
Phone: (204) 983-5261

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7364 SaskPower 72 kv power line - La Ronge (CWS)

BACKGROUND:

The proposal describes a 15 km length of electrical transmission line adjacent to the villages of LaRonge and Air Ronge.

KEY ISSUES:

Considerable public interest has been shown respecting vegetation control and wildlife habitat. The line routing may pass through Lac La Ronge Indian Reserve.

STATUS:

DFO has recommended that INAC assume Initiator responsibilities.

FUTURE ACTION:

DOE (CWS) may declare Initiator status on this project.

Prepared by:	C. Rodger	Lead:	CWS
Phone:	(403) 468-8936	Contact:	C. Rodger
Originated:	January 8, 1992	Phone:	(403) 468-8936

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7368 International Minerals and Chemical Corporation (Canada) Limited - Potash mine, Esterhazy, Saskatchewan (CWS)

BACKGROUND:

IMC has planned to open up a new pit mine and construct roads to supply their existing processing facility. They have requested that DOE initiate EARP. No other initiators have been identified/declared.

KEY ISSUES: STATUS: FUTURE ACTION:

At the time of the request, it appeared that potential impact on migratory birds would be sufficient to trigger Initiator status. After the Oldman Dam Decision it became apparent that this is not the case. Therefore, DOE will **not** initiate and, if no request for advice is forthcoming from other Initiators, it is suggested that the file be closed.

Prepared by: T. Coleman
Phone: (403) 468-8914
Originated: March 26, 1992

Lead: CWS
Contact: T. Coleman
Phone: (403) 468-8914

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7307 WED - Pound Maker Ethanol Plant, Lanigan, Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

Joint venture to make ethanol by Saskatchewan Wheat Pool and Mohawk Oil Co. Ltd.. Western Economic Diversification asked for funding.

KEY ISSUES:

Air emissions; odours; blower blow-down; storage of hazardous substances.

STATUS:

Project Inactive. (January 24, 1991)

FUTURE ACTION:

Recommend that the EACC revisit in 12 months, (June 1992), unless proponents renew efforts.

Prepared by:	R. Reid	Lead:	EP (SDO)
Phone:	(306) 780-6465	Contact:	D. Waite
Originated:	June 26, 1991	Phone:	(306) 780-6438

PROJECT INACTIVE

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7322 University of Saskatchewan - Slowpoke Nuclear Power Reactor (EP)

BACKGROUND:

The University of Saskatchewan is evaluating the possibility of installing a nuclear hot water heating system on its campus. The AECL 10 MW Slowpoke energy system is being considered. The slowpoke system would be integrated with a conventional hot water heating system. This would be the first commercial slowpoke energy system in Canada.

KEY ISSUES:

- Release of radionuclides to the environment
- Public Safety in areas adjacent to the nuclear reactor
- Public concern

STATUS:

AECL has requested the University of Saskatchewan to postpone its decision as to whether approval would be given to install the slowpoke nuclear heating system. This requst is to allow the company time to study possible technological design changes to the slowpoke system. The design changes could reduce environmental impacts. Lower natural gas costs to power conventional heating systems have resulted in poor Canadian marketing conditions for the slowpoke system. AECL has been aggressively marketing its nuclear heating system in Europe. AECL funding, which was initially part of the AECL proposal to the University, may not be available if the company finds a European buyer.

FUTURE ACTION:

Review of Environmental Impact Statements for possible full-scale operation could be received in 1992, if the University of Saskatchewan agrees to install the Slowpoke system before AECL signs a joint-venture agreement with a European participant.

Prepared by:	P. Dugandzic	Lead:	EP (SDO)
Phone:	(306) 780-6078	Contact:	D. Lawson
Originated:	July 3, 1991	Phone:	(306) 780-6462
Updated:	August 19, 1991 (P. Dugandzic) (No change)		

September 4, 1991 EACC Meeting - Project Inactive

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7094: Beaverlodge Mine Decommissioning; CAMECO (formerly Eldorado Resources Limited); Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

In December, 1981, Eldorado Resources Limited announced the closure of its mine near Uranium City, Saskatchewan. In June, 1982, Eldorado submitted a reclamation plan to the regulatory agencies. The approach to decommissioning has been to protect the surrounding natural environment by employing good engineering practices to ensure long-term stability of the site.

KEY ISSUES:

The reclamation of the grounds and subsequent transfer of ownership to the province, is dependent on runoff meeting model predictions of Surface Water Quality Objectives. Should compliance with the modelling predictions not be achieved, ownership would remain with CAMECO. The regulatory agencies are also concerned about the stability of rock covers; including permafrost action, piping, settlement, rates and effects of revegetation, and shoreline erosion. The long-term integrity of three small dams is under surveillance.

STATUS

The reclamation was completed in July, 1985, and joint annual inspections have since been conducted by the regulatory agencies. The final points of control will be monitored for a period of six to eight years. If the monitoring shows sufficient compliance with Saskatchewan Surface Water Quality Objectives, and if annual inspections indicate the effective long-term containment of the tailings, ownership of the site will be transferred to the province. Two of the three small dams were upgraded in 1987 and areas of excessive settlement have been repaired.

The company could submit a report in 1992 requesting an end to their environmental monitoring and for return of the land to the province.

FUTURE ACTION:

EP and AECB will make annual inspections of the site and sample the runoff, as deemed necessary, to confirm results provided by the company and the province. EP will involve the Regional Mining Sub-Committee as required.

Prepared by:	Dennis Lawson	Lead:	EP
Originated:	October 1, 1985	Contact:	D. Lawson
Updated:	December 19, 1985	Phone:	(306) 780-6462
Updated:	February 12, 1986		
Updated:	January 16, 1987		
Updated:	November 17, 1987 (D. Lawson)		
Updated:	January 19, 1989 (D. Lawson)		
Updated:	November 6, 1989		
Updated:	November 5, 1990		
Updated:	January 2, 1991 (no change) (P. Dugandzic)		
Updated:	August 19, 1991 (P. Dugandzic)		

September 4, 1991 EACC Meeting - Project Inactive - Review in 1 year

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC

NW-7309 Cameco Hanson Lake Copper/Zinc mine and mill project

BACKGROUND

The Hanson Lake project consists of a mine, mill, waste management facility and road access at a copper/zinc massive sulphide deposit located approximately 85 km west of the Flin Flon/Creighton area at the south end of Hanson Lake. A milling rate of 2700 tonnes/day is anticipated and the probable life of the project is 8-10 years. Blackduck Lake is proposed as a tailings pond and is located 5.0 km northeast of the mine site. This lake is bounded on the north and west by muskeg and drainage from the lake passes through an undefined channel within this muskeg to Hanson Lake (a major recreational and fisheries lake). Access to the mine site requires the construction of an all-weather gravel haul road connecting the site to the Hanson Lake access road.

KEY ISSUES

Fisheries information on Blackduck Lake is insufficient to reach a decision on the likely impacts of the mine on the lake. Heavy metal concentrations and the acid generating potential of the tailings are of concern with respect to the potential impact on Hanson Lake.

STATUS

DFO has concluded its initial assessment of the project pursuant to Section 12 of the federal EARP Guidelines Order. The screening decision is that the potential adverse environmental effects that may be caused by the proposal are unknown, in which case the proposal shall require further study by the proponent and subsequent rescreening by DFO. The proponent has been asked to submit an EIS (August 2, 1990).

FUTURE ACTION

DFO will rescreen the Hanson Lake Project based on new information provided in the EIS.

Prepared by:	Henry Majewski	Lead:	DFO
Phone:	(204) 983-5135	Contact:	Greg McKinnon
Originated:	November 7, 1990	Phone:	(204) 983-5220
Updated:	January 4, 1991		
Updated:	April 4, 1991 (No changes, G. Peregoodoff, EP SDO)		
Updated:	July 24, 1991 (No changes, R. McV. Clarke, DFO)		

September 4, 1991 EACC Meeting - Project Inactive

Updated: December 4, 1991 (No changes, G. McKinnon)

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7361 Jans Bay Biomass

BACKGROUND:

NCB Holdings Inc. proposes to construct a 15 megawatt (MW) Cogeneration Plant which uses peat as the primary fuel. Wood waste would be the secondary fuel. The plant site will be located seven kilometres east of Jans Bay, Saskatchewan, adjacent to Provincial Road 965. NCB has a 25 year contract to sell 15 MW to SaskPower starting July, 1993, for distribution through the provincial grid.

KEY ISSUES:

This is the first plant of this type in Canada. There are concerns for the impact of peat harvesting on the local hydrogeological regime and the Keely River; effects on water quality, effluent quality; effects on fish habitat; effects on wildlife; air emissions and compliance with federal requirements; land disturbance and reclamation.

STATUS:

EP (SDO) provided comments in February, 1991, on the project specific guidelines in response to a request from Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety. A revised work plan was completed by the company's consultants in April. On June 10, DFO declared itself as an initiating department under the 1984 EARP Guidelines Order.

The EIS has not been received.

FUTURE ACTION:

Provide specialist advice to DFO after the EIS is reviewed.

Prepared by:	D. Waite	Lead:	EP (SDO)
Phone:	(306) 780-6483	Contact:	D. Waite
Originated:	August 20, 1991	Phone:	(306) 780-6438

November 7, 1991 EACC Meeting - Project INACTIVE

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

MANITOBA

NW-2764	Conawapa Dam/BiPole III; Manitoba Hydro Project (IWD)
NW-2746	ManFor/Repap Manitoba Inc. - Pulpmill, The Pas (EP)
NW-2774	Disease Control Centre, Winnipeg (EP)
NW-2778	Agriculture Canada (PFRA) - Pembina Triangle Water Supply Project (IWD)
NW-2769	North Central Manitoba Electrification Project (CWS)
NW-2748	Namew Lake Mine (DFO)
NW-2784	Abitibi-Price Forest Management Plan (DFO)
NW-2851	EMR - Boreas Project (AES)
NW-2890	Pembina Water Valley Cooperative Inc., Water Diversion (IWD)
NW-2766	Oak Hammock Marsh (CWS)

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-2764: Conawapa Dam/BiPole III; Manitoba Hydro, Manitoba

BACKGROUND:

On December 7, 1989, the Province of Manitoba concluded a power sale agreement with Ontario. This sales agreement has led Manitoba Hydro to proceed with the construction of the 1400 MW Conawapa Hydro Dam on the Nelson River. The dam will be located 27 km downstream of the Limestone project and will be a "run-of-the-river" operation. Manitoba Hydro's proposal also calls for the construction of a new transmission line down the east side of Lake Winnipeg, known as BiPole III and a transmission line to connect with the Ontario grid. Activities to date include development of an access road, site evaluation and environmental studies associated with possible project impacts.

KEY ISSUES:

Environmental impacts; potential impact on populations of endemic brook trout and sturgeon in the Nelson River and tributaries and wildlife impacts due to transmission lines and improved access.

STATUS:

On June 7, 1991 a joint federal/provincial environmental assessment panel was announced. The joint panel will examine environmental and related health, socio-economic and cultural impacts of the proposed generating station, BiPole III transmission line complex and the interconnection to Ontario. The panel is expected to complete its report by January, 1993.

FUTURE ACTION:

DOE will continue to monitor the project through the Lower Nelson Technical Advisory Committee and through the panel, and provide advice as requsted. When the EIS is completed, DOE will review the document and prepare a submission to the panel. IWD will be the DOE point of contact and keep the EACC informed.

Prepared by: D.J. Munro
Phone: (306) 780-6544
Originated: January 24, 1990
Updated: January 14, 1991
Updated: December 16, 1991

Lead: IWD
Contact: D.J. Munro
Phone: (306) 780-6544

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-2746 ManFor/Repap Manitoba Inc. - Existing Pulp Mill Conversion and New Mill Construction, The Pas, Manitoba

BACKGROUND:

Repap has proposed in Phase I to alter the production process at The Pas from a 400 tonnes per day unbleached kraft pulp mill to a 500 tonnes per day bleached pulp mill. In Phase II, Repap plans to build a second bleached pulp mill with a capacity of 1,200 tonnes per day and further expanding production at the first mill to 550 tonnes per day. These developments will require a significant change in the forest management plan to supply wood to the mills.

A Phase I licence, issued to Repap by Manitoba Environment in January, 1990, is currently under appeal by both the company and an environmental group. On December 9, 1990, DFO requested the federal Minister of Environment to appoint an Environmental Assessment Panel to conduct a public review of the proposed developments. An agreement was subsequently negotiated by the Province of Manitoba and FEARO to conduct a joint federal-provincial environmental assessment panel review of the proposed development.

KEY ISSUES:

The main issues are in regard to the degree of impact resulting from the discharge of deleterious substances by the mills to the Saskatchewan River. There may also be a variety of concerns associated with forest management activities.

STATUS:

Draft Terms of Reference for the joint Federal-Provincial Environmental Assessment Panel were released in March 1991; an announcement regarding the panel members is expected shortly.

FUTURE ACTION:

DOE will have a significant role to play in providing expert technical advice to DFO pertaining to the proposed pulp mill processes and effluent discharges.

Prepared by:	D. Povoledo	Lead:	EP (MDO)
Phone:	(204) 983-4818	Contact:	S. Therrien-Richards
Originated:	January 24, 1991	Phone:	(204) 983-4813
Updated:	December 9, 1991		

PROJECT/ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-2774 Disease Control Centre, Winnipeg

BACKGROUND:

Federal Health Minister Jake Epp announced in the fall of 1987 that a decision had been made to build a joint Health and Welfare Canada and Agriculture Canada virology laboratory in Winnipeg.

In November 1989, the City of Winnipeg Council approved the transfer of a 9.6 hectare city-owned works yard to the Government of Canada for the construction of the Laboratory Centre for Disease Control and Agriculture Virus Research Laboratory. The City of Winnipeg subsequently hired consultants to determine what site remediation would be required before the property was turned over to the federal government. Remediation measures outlined in a report by the consultants are nearing completion.

KEY ISSUES:

EP expects that this project will be publicly sensitive. A major public information program is warranted to allay fears of Winnipeg residents. Environmental concerns will include dispersion of fumes and ash from the incinerator; proper treatment and disposal of liquid and solid waste generated in the lab; the dispersion of exotic highly contagious viruses; and catastrophic events.

STATUS:

In February, 1992, an announcement was made by Ottawa that construction of the virology lab will begin after June, 1992. The media reports that a study on the impact to the community is scheduled to be released in mid-February, 1992. Design renderings for the laboratory are also near completion. The Initial Environmental Assessment prepared by Public Works Canada will also be released shortly.

FUTURE ACTION:

EP, Manitoba District Office, will provide expert advice pursuant to Section 19 of the EARP Guildelines Order based on the Initial Environmental Assessment document upon receipt. EP, Manitoba, will be working cooperatively on this review with EP, Ontario, because a similar faciltiy is planned for Ottawa.

Prepared by:	S. Therrien-Richards	Lead:	EP (MDO)
Phone:	(204) 983-4813	Contact:	S. Therrien-Richards
Originated:	February 20, 1992	Phone:	(204) 983-4813
Updated:			

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-2778 Agriculture Canada, PFRA, Pembina Triangle Water Supply Project, Manitoba

BACKGROUND:

The region of the Pembina Triangle between the Manitoba Escarpment and the Red River, and south of the LaSalle River watershed to the U.S. border, is a chronically dry area. The Pembina Valley Water Task Force, representing the seven rural municipalities and the major urban centres in the area, was established in June 1989 to develop a regional solution to the water supply problem. The Task Force has considered security of water supply, costs and potential environmental concerns, and held meetings and consultation throughout the region, in order to develop a long-term water supply strategy. The strategy calls for the continued use of existing water sources and infrastructure, a water conservation program, and the construction of new regional treatment plants and pipelines to provide additional water from the Red and Assiniboine Rivers. In February 1991, the Task Force submitted its findings and recommendations in "A Water Supply Strategy for the Pembina Valley" for consideration by federal and provincial governments. In June, 1991, the Task Force formed the Pembina Valley water Cooperative, to proceed with implementation of the project. During 1991, the Cooperative altered the water supply proposal somewhat, following consultation with technical advisors and fisheries and environmental specialists. The present proposal is projected to cost $63 million and will consist of the following:

1. A pump house will be constructed on the Assiniboine River (west of Portage la Prairie, north of Rathwell) with water diverted through a pipeline and canal system to the Boyne River, the water will flow down the natural channel to the existing Stephenfield Reservoir. Some engineering may be required on the Boyne River channel to ensure winter flow to the reservoir (channel clean-out and small weirs to maintain depth, and snow fences to prevent snow/ice blockages). A water treatment plant is to be constructed at the reservoir and water will be pumped via the existing water distribution system for Carman, Mordon, Winkler, and smaller communities and farms in the western portion of the project area.

2. The original Task Force proposal to construct a 14.5' high weir across the Red River has been abandoned due to potential for significant impacts to fish and fish habitat. However, the regional water system still proposes to withdraw and treat up to 5 cfs from the Red River at Morris and Letellier. This water would be distributed to Altona, Emerson, smaller communities and farms in the eastern portion of the project area.

KEY ISSUES:

Key issues relate primarily to the need and justification for the project. Water demand forecasts are based on optimistic population increase estimates with little change in per capita water use, despite a stated commitment to water conservation. The project has been considered in isolation of predicting changes to other uses of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers (e.g. future use of the Red by the U.S., other future water withdrawl proposals for the Assiniboine River, etc.). There is the possibility for the introduction of new fish stocks to the Boyne River system via the Assiniboine inlet. Degradation of water quality may result from introduction of Assiniboine River water, and seasonal changes in flow may impact fish populations in the Boyne River. Reduced flows downstream of the Assiniboine River (and to a lesser degree, the Red River) intakes may change water quality (ie. increased concentrations of nutrients, dissolved solids, pesticides, etc.) and restrict use of some fish habitat areas during low water periods.

STATUS:

In October 1991, the Cooperative released its draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), describing the Pembina Valley Water Supply Proposal and its anticipated environmental and related socio-economic impacts. The EIS is intended to satisfy the environmental assessment requirements for the proposal under both the federal EAR Process and the Manitoba Environment Act. As a Class 3 Development under the provincial process, the proposal requires a public review by the Clean Environment Commission. DFO is currently screening the proposal pursuant to Section 12 of the EARP Guidelines Order for fish and fish habitat issues only.

FUTURE ACTION:

DFO intends to notify PFRA that on the basis of information deficiencies in the draft EIS, additional information is required before a screening decision can be made. Agriculture Canada, as lead Initiating Department, will be expected to reach a screening decision on all environmental and related socio-economic implications of the project.

Prepared by:	Karen Broughton	Lead:	a) DFO
Phone:	(204) 983-5250	Contact:	G. McKinnon
Originated:	April 4, 1990	Phone:	(204) 983-5220
		Lead:	b) DOE (IWD)
Updated:	January 10, 1991	Contact:	D. Munro
Updated:	December 9, 1991	Phone:	(306) 780-6544

Project lead for EACC purposes - IWD

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-2769 North Central Manitoba Electrification Project; Manitoba

BACKGROUND:

Manitoba Hydro proposes to construct a 138 kv electrical transmission line in the north central portion of the province to link seven communities with the Kelsey Generating Station on the Nelson River. This project is being developed in association with seven Indian Bands of the area, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, and the Manitoba government. The communities are currently supplied with electricity via independent diesel generating stations. The existing system requires upgrading or replacement.

KEY ISSUES:

Construction of a 138 kv transmission line southward from the Kelsey Generating Station will pose considerable negative environmental impacts as it will cross virgin boreal forests, straddle significant rivers and lakes, open the region to increased access, provide a potential power source to mineral holdings otherwise not cost effective and opens socio-economic considerations for the residents of the communities and area.

STATUS:

The project was formally referred, in April, 1991, to FEARO and Manitoba Environment for a public review. The Panel has not been announced yet. Final design modifications have been made in conjunction with northern community input. Indian Affairs and DFO are Initiating Departments. The EIS is completed.

FUTURE ACTION:

The announcement of the panel and the time frame for public review is expected early in 1992. DOE will provide specialist advice to the Panel as required.

Prepared by: R.D. Wickstrom
Phone: (204) 983-5261
Originated: March 4, 1991
Updated: January 10, 1992

Lead: CWS
Contact: R.D. Wickstrom
Phone: (204) 983-5261

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-2748 Namew Lake mine, Manitoba

BACKGROUND:

The operation at Namew Lake consists of a nickel/copper mine with on-site milling facilities. The development exploits an ore deposit located 64 km due south of Flin Flon and 1.6 km east of the Manitoba/Saskatchewan border. The ore body lies under Namew Lake, 760 meters from the south shoreline where the mine/mill facility is situated. The copper concentrate is trucked to the HBMS Flin Flon smelter for treatment and the nickel concentrate is sent to Inco's refinery in Thompson and Sherrit Gordon Limited's refinery in Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta. Mine dewatering and depressuring water is collected prior to its entry into the mine workings, pumped to the surface and disposed by pipeline to Chocolate Lake in Manitoba and subsequently by gravity feed to Namew Lake on the Manitoba/Saskatchewan border. Mine wastewater is handled separately from mine depressuring/dewatering water. It is collected within the mine workings and pumped to the surface where it is directed to the wastewater storage pond. Clarified effluent from the wastewater storage pond is injected into the depressurizing/dewatering effluent stream feeding Chocolate Lake.
HMBS, in conjunction with Manitoba Fisheries Branch, has stocked Chocolate Lake with rainbow trout, a saline tolerant species and valuable sport fish. These trout will function as an indicator species in Chocolate Lake in a large bioassay experiment to monitor the effects of mine effluent discharge prior to entering Namew Lake. Namew Lake is important for both a sport and commercial fishery as well as being the drinking water source for the communities of Sturgeon Landing and Cumberland House and the Peter Ballantyne and Cumberland House Indian Bands.

KEY ISSUES:

Mine wastewater will contain low concentrations of heavy metals from seepage, water entering the mine workings as well as high total dissolved solids (TDS). Some concern has been raised by the public in the past that this water may reach Namew Lake via Chocolate Lake and have an effect on both drinking water and fisheries.

STATUS:

DFO is continuing its EARP assessment of the Namew Lake Mine project. Much of the necessary monitoring information has been received by DFO at this time and is currently under review.

FUTURE ACTION:

DFO is continuing its environmental assessment of the project as Initiating Department under EARP.

Prepared by:	Henry Majewski	Lead:	DFO
Phone:	(204) 983-5135	Contact:	Greg McKinnon
Originated:	November 7, 1990	Phone:	(204) 983-5220
Updated:	January 4, 1991		
Updated:	March 7, 1991 (R. Fudge)		
Updated:	December 4, 1991 (G. McKinnon)		

PROJECT/ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-2784 Abitibi-Price Forest Management Plan, Manitoba
(Licence for Eight-year Forest Resource Management Plan, 1991-1998, for the area northeast of Pine Falls, Manitoba).

BACKGROUND:

In October 1990, Abitibi-Price submitted a five year operating plan for 1989-1993 (subsequently revised to an eight year plan for 1991-1998) to the Manitoba Department of Environment. The plan addresses the wood furnish requirements for the Abitibi-Price Pine Falls Newsprint Mill. In May 1990, DFO instructed Abitibi-Price that EARP would apply to the forest management plan.

KEY ISSUES:

In general, forestry practices (falling and yarding, forest roads, and silviculture) can have significant impact on the terrestrial and aquatic environment and its biotic resources. These impacts include: altered water quality and habitat through introduction of sediments, logging debris, and biocides to streams; altered streamflow regimes; altered stream productivity and temperature regimes; and increased access leading to subsequent increase in resource use. Public concern has also been an issue and the proponent has made an effort to allow for substantial public involvement in the EIA process.

STATUS:

The proponent completed its EIA for the project in early 1991 and DFO subsequently screened the proposal pursuant to Section 12 of the EARP Guidelines Order. The decision rendered on July 24, 1991 was 12 (e) that "the potentially adverse environmental affects that may be caused by the proposal are mitigable with known technology, in which case the proposal may proceed with the mitigation". Subsequently in October and November 1991 the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission held public hearings on the project. DFO was in attendance at these hearings at the request of the Commission.

FUTURE ACTION:

DFO will monitor implementation of the proposal to ensure compliance with the terms of the EARP Guidelines Order approval.

Prepared by:	K. Broughton (for G. McKinnon)	Lead:	DFO
Phone:	(204) 983-5220 (G. McKinnon)	Contact:	G. McKinnon
Originated:	May 10, 1990	Phone:	(204) 983-5220
Updated:	January 9, 1991		
Updated:	December 4, 1991		

PROJECT/ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-2851 EMR - Boreas Project

BACKGROUND:

BOREAS (Boreal-Ecosystem Atmosphere Study) is a cooperative NASA/Canada field and analysis study involving elements of land surface climatology, tropospheric chemistry and terrestrial ecology. The goal of the project is to gain an improved understanding of the interactions between the boreal forest biome and the atmosphere in order to clarify their roles in global change. The research project is funded in part by the Green Plan Initiative on Global Warming: Reducing the Uncertainties. Canada Centre for Remote Sensing (EMR) is the lead Canadian agency.
Environment Canada, including AES, C&P and CPS are involved. Two study sites of approximately 20km x 20km have been chosen for the experiment - Thompson/Nelson House in Manitoba and in nearby Prince Albert National Park in Saskatchewan. These sites will be the subject of surface, airborne and satellite based observations to explore various aspects of the environment including climatological, hydrological, biophysical and air quality factors.

KEY ISSUES:

Within Prince Albert National Park, concerns exist with respect to the placement of ground facilities and access and use which relate to policy and zoning within the national park setting. In areas outside the park, both in Saskatchewan and in Manitoba, concerns exist with respect to the same factors as they may affect lands of interest to the first nations in the vicinity. Overflights by aircraft engaged in remote sensing are considered to be of lesser concern.

STATUS:

CPS has commissioned an IEE which was prepared by Beak Consultants for study areas within Prince Albert National Park. That report has been received and is under review by CPS. A CPS screening decision has not yet been made. EMR has commissioned DPW to prepare an IEE for areas outside the park in both Saskatchewan and Manitoba. That work is now underway and has included meetings in both provinces to incorporate the requirements and concerns of provincial as well as federal processes. It is anticipated that the IEE will be submitted in the spring of 1992.

FUTURE ACTION:

Based on the IEEs prepared, screening decisions will be made by EMR, DOE and other departments involved. Those decisions will determine future actions that may be required under EARP.
CPS: Following public consultations, CPS will decide on the acceptability of proposed research. This decision will determine further actions that may be required under EARP.

Prepared by:	D.G. Schaefer	Lead:	AES
Phone:	(204) 983-4379	Contact:	D.G. Schaefer
Originated:	February 24, 1992	Phone:	(204) 983-4379
Updated:			

PROJECT/ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-2890 Pembina Water Valley Cooperative Inc., Water Diversion, Manitoba

BACKGROUND:

The Pembina Valley Water Cooperative proposes to divert water from the Assiniboine and Red rivers in southern Manitoba to provide municipal water for a number of communities in the Pembina Triangle. The $63 million project includes upgrading and/or replacement of water treatment facilities, approximately 120 km of pipelines, and diversion works from the Assiniboine and Red rivers. The Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (PFRA) is providing funding for the technical and environmental studies being undertaken by the proponent as a potential partner in the project if it is approved.

KEY ISSUES:

Water diversion and pipeline construction may effect hydrology, water quality, wildlife, fish habitat and land use. However, environmental impacts are not expected to be major.

STATUS:

A draft Environmental Impact Statement has been prepared. DOE reviewed the document and comments were provided to PFRA, Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) and the proponent. IWD will continue to act as the DOE point of contact for this proposal and keep the EACC informed as to the status of the proposal.

FUTURE ACTION:

IWD will continue to lead the review of this project and maintain contact with PFRA and DFO, the initiating departments.

Prepared by: D.J. Munro
Phone: (306) 780-6544
Originated: December 16, 1991

Lead IWD
Contact: D.J. Munro
Phone: (306) 780-6544

PROJECT/ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-2766 Oak Hammock Marsh Proposal

BACKGROUND:

Ducks Unlimited Canada proposed to build an office and interpretive complex in Oak Hammock Marsh, Manitoba, a Manitoba Heritage Marsh and Ramsar site. The area is popular with bird watchers and is an important waterfowl staging site. CWS led the DOE EIS review as advisors to WEDO whose decision was to proceed and funded $2M to the project.

KEY ISSUES:

Although the ecological issues were found to be mitigatable, the principle of constructing such a complex in a Heritage site was raised by numerous local, national and international groups. The land use and construction permits are a provincial responsibility, not federal.

STATUS:

The complex is presently nearing completion, however, two separate court actions are still proceeding, one in provincial court, another is expected at the federal level.

FUTURE ACTION:

The provincial court appeal will deal with the land use matters and is not expected to impact on federal responsibilities, while the impending case which is to go before the federal court will settle the grounds relating to the federal government's decision for an internal initial assessment rather than a full public review and whether WEDO was correct with their decision on Oak Hammock Marsh.

Prepared by: R. Wickstrom
Phone: (204) 983-5261
Originated: March 20, 1992
Updated:

Lead: CWS
Contact: R. Wickstrom
Phone: (204) 983-5261

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

N.W.T.

ACTIVE PROJECTS:

NW-11857	Mackenzie Delta Gas Export Proposal (CWS)
NW-4441	Northern Diseased Bison, Wood Buffalo National Park (CPS)

INACTIVE PROJECTS:

NW-6330	Urangesellschaft Canada Ltd. (Kiggavik) (EP)

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-11857: Mackenzie Delta Gas Export Proposal; National Energy Board

BACKGROUND:

The National Energy Board issued licences to Esso Resources Canada Limited, Gulf Canada Limited and Shell Canada Limited for export of natural gas from the Mackenzie Delta. On February 8, 1990, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources wrote to the Board requesting clarification on how the Board would comply with the EARP Guidelines Order in arriving at its decision to issue export licences. The Board determined that an environmental assessment was necessary to ensure compliance with the Order. Hearing Order GHW-2-90, which outlines the nature and general procedures for an initial environmental assessment of the export proposals, was subsequently issued by the Board.

KEY ISSUES:

Potential environmental impacts along the Mackenzie Valley and Dempster Lateral pipeline routes have been outlined in the original proposals. It is not clear whether the original environmental data will be presented to the NEB or if new studies will be undertaken.

As indicated in the Hearing Order, the proposed Environmental Screening will encompass any environmental impacts associated with construction and operation of production, gathering, transmission and distribution infrastructure.

STATUS:

The Environmental Screening process will commence upon the Board's receipt of submissions from proponents. No deadline for these submissions has been set by the Board; realistically, submissions may not be received for two or more years hence. B. Burns has notified NEB that Environment Canada wishes to participate in the Environmental Screening of the export proposals. CWS will act as lead for the DOE review.

FUTURE ACTION:

To be determined upon clarification of the NEB initial assessment process.

Prepared by: Tim Sackmann
Phone: (403) 873-3456

Originated: March 22, 1990
Updated: August 10, 1990
Updated: January 10, 1991

Lead: CWS
Contact: K. McCormick
Phone: (403) 920-8531

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4441: Northern Diseased Bison, Wood Buffalo National Park and surrounding area of Alberta and NWT.

BACKGROUND:

Bovine turberculosis and brucellosis exist in a significant percentage of approximately 3,400 hybrid wood-plains bison inhabiting Wood Buffalo National Park and surrounding area.

KEY ISSUES:

The free-roaming hybrid bison in and around Wood Buffalo National Park are infected with the reportable diseases of tuberculosis and brucellosis and, as a result, may spread these diseases to livestock, other wildlife including the endangered wood bison, and man. Hybrid bison may interbreed with the wood bison of the Mackenzie Bison Sanctuary (MBS) or other free-roaming wood bison herds that my become established in the area, causing genetic contamination of the threatened wood bison.
The FEARO Panel report, released on 29 August 1990, presents 34 main recommendations including simultaneous depopulation of the existing hybrid bison herd and re-population with disease free stock.

STATUS:

Agriculture Canada has yet to respond to the panel report recommendations. Following the release of the FEARO panel report, the Northern Buffalo Management Board (NBMB) was established. This board represents various stakeholders, including aboriginal groups, federal government agencies, provincial and territorial governments, and the public. A total of 17 stakeholders are represented.
The NBMB is mandated to develop and recommend a bison disease plan/management strategy through community based planning and scientifically-based efforts. The objectives of the board are to 1) prevent the spread of bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis, 2) ensure that healthy free roaming bison with the broadest possible genetic diversity will continue to be a major part of the regional ecosystem, 3) use existing data, carry out special studies, and use traditional knowledge to fill information gaps, and 4) understand ecological interactions such as predator-prey and habitat relationships and consider them in development of a management strategy.
To date, one proposal has been reviewed by the board and other proposals are expected. Environmental screening of the various proposals will be required.

FUTURE ACTION:

Monitor the issue and assist NBRP board by responding with information on, and as required, basis.

Prepared by: R.D. Wickstrom/D. Kerfoot
Phone: (204) 983-3113
Originated: August 8, 1989
Updated: November 28, 1989
Updated: January 17, 1989
Updated: June 15, 1989
Updated: March 30, 1990 (W. Fenton)
Updated: January 15, 1991.
Updated: January 18, 1991

Lead: CPS
Contact: D. Kerfoot
Phone: (204) 983-3113
Lead: CWS
Contact: R. Edwards
Phone: (403) 468-8930
Updated: December 16/91
(T. Golumbia/C. Pacas)

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-6330: Urangesellschaft Canada Ltd., Kiggavik (Lone Gull) Uranium Mine

BACKGROUND:

Urangesellschaft Canada Limited (UG) proposes to develop an open pit uranium mine 75 km west of Baker Lake, N.W.T.. The proposed Kiggavik mine would involve open pit mining of two deposits at a rate of 300,000 tonnes per year. The project would also involve marine transportation of 34 million litres of hydrocarbons to a terminal in Chesterfield Inlet.
Since the spring of 1989, an assessment of the proposed Kiggavik uranium mining project has been ongoing under the Environmental Assessment Review Process.
UG submitted its project description, environmental assessment and supporting documents to the Panel in January, 1990. Comments were due by 19 March, 1990. The Panel has produced a deficiency statement based on the comments received and forwarded it to the proponent.

KEY ISSUES:

UG has submitted a project description, environmental assessment and supporting documents to the Environmental Assessment Panel. These documents have been reviewed by technical experts in DOE and a compilation of concerns has been forwarded to the Panel. Major deficiencies include:
1. The absence of explicit long-term mining plans and an assessment of tailings management requirements and environmental impacts associated with extended mining activity.
2. The lack of marine, fresh water and land spill contingency plans for oil and other hazardous material.
3. Inadequate consideration of tailings management options, in particular, tailings disposal in the Main Zone Pit.
4. Inadequate information concerning ground water and permafrost.
5. Inadequate information regarding habitat use by migratory birds and other wildlife in the Kiggavik area.
6. Inadequate baseline atmospheric, terrestrial, permafrost, ground water, surface water, and sediment data.

STATUS:

Environment Canada's (and the Panel's) position is that there is insufficient information provided to evaluate the environmental assessment of the proposed Kiggavik project. The information which is available raises serious concerns, and these deficiencies must be addressed before a review can proceed.

FUTURE ACTION:

Review UG responses to DOE concerns and amend DOE position if appropriate.
Participate in Panel hearings as appropriate (in the fall at the earliest).

Prepared by: G.A. Packman
Phone: (403) 873-3456
Originated: April 12, 1988
Updated: July 21, 1988 (W. Fenton)
Updated: January 22, 1990
Updated: August 10, 1990 (T. Sackmann)
Updated: January 21, 1991 (No change)
Updated: November 25, 1991 - PROJECT INACTIVE

Lead: EP/NWT
Contact: L. Johnston
Phone: (403) 873-3456

PART B

1991 REGISTRATION/ACTIVITY REPORT

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Part B - Registration/Activity Report

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TABLE 1

1991 CUMULATIVE PROPOSAL REGISTRATION AND PRESCREENING DATA
Referred to the EACC for I: Information or D: Decision
T: Total

	NUMBER OF PROJECTS REGISTERED																	
	NWT			Alberta			Saskatchewan			Manitoba			Month			Year		
MONTH	I	D	T	I	D	T	I	D	T	I	D	T	I	D	T	I	D	T
Jan.	26	0	26	4	1	5	4	0	4	3	0	3	37	1	38	37	1	38
Feb.	23	0	23	14	0	14	8	1	9	5	0	5	50	1	51	87	2	89
Mar.	20	0	20	12	1	13	5	0	5	4	0	4	41	1	42	128	3	131
Apr.	17	0	17	6	3	9	4	5	9	5	0	5	32	8	40	160	11	171
May	7	0	7	8	0	8	4	0	4	11	0	11	30	0	30	190	11	201
June	0	0	0	8	0	8	4	0	4	8	0	8	20	0	20	210	11	221
July	0	0	0	5	0	5	1	0	1	11	0	11	17	0	17	227	11	238
Aug.	0	0	0	3	0	3	1	0	1	10	0	10	14	0	14	241	11	252
Sept.	1	0	1	10	1	11	1	4	5	9	1	10	21	6	27	262	17	279
Oct.	0	0	0	7	0	7	6	1	7	4	1	5	17	2	19	279	19	298
Nov.	2	0	2	15	0	15	3	0	3	9	1	10	29	1	30	308	20	328
Dec.	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	3	311	20	331
TOTALS	96	0	96	94	6	100	42	11	53	79	3	82	311	20	331			

TABLE 2

1991 PROPOSAL REGISTRATION DATA GROUPED BY REFERRING AGENCY

REFERRING AGENCY	NUMBER OF PROJECTS REGISTERED		TOTAL
	INFORMATION	DECISION	
Energy Mines & Resources	3	2	5
Environment - C&P	4	0	4
- Parks (Western Region)	5	0	5
- Parks (Prairie & Northern Region)			
- AES			
Fisheries & Oceans	28	5	33
Indian & Northern Affairs - I&IA	12	1	13
- NA	81	0	81
National Defence	1	1	2
Public Works	1	0	1
Transport - NWPA	54	2	56
Atomic Energy Control Board	3	1	4
Supply & Services Canada			
Canadian National Railway	3	0	3
Government of NWT	64	0	64
Alberta Environment	7	4	11
Saskatchewan Environment	14	4	18
Manitoba Environment	11	0	11
National Research Council			
Health & Welfare Canada			
COGLA			
Agriculture Canada			
P.F.R.A.	1	0	1
Western Economic Diversification	19	0	19
EIRB			
TOTALS	311	20	331

TABLE 3

1991 PROPOSAL REGISTRATION DATA GROUPED BY LEAD AGENCY

LEAD AGENCY		NUMBER OF REGISTERED PROJECTS TO DATE INFORMATION	DECISION	TOTAL
DFO	- Central & Arctic Region			
CWS		0	6	6
AES	- Central Region	0	1	1
	- Western Region			
IWD	- Western & Northern Region	0	1	1
CPS	- Prairie and Northern Region			
	- Western Region			
EP	- NWT District	96	0	96
	- Alberta District	94	6	100
	- Saskatchewan District	29	6	35
	- Manitoba District	92	0	92
FC				
CORE Secretariat				
TOTALS		311	20	331

TABLE 4

1991 REGISTERED PROPOSALS REFERRED FOR EACC DECISION AT MEETINGS

MONTH	LEAD	NUMBER	PROJECT TITLE
JANUARY		NIL	
FEBRUARY	CWS	NW-7327	Saskatchewan Power Corporation - Transmission line from Brada to Meadow Lake, Sask.
	EP (ADO)	NW-4561	Three Sisters Golf Resort Inc., Camore, Alberta
MARCH		NIL	
APRIL	CWS	NW-7340	EMR - Seismic survey traversing central Saskatchewan and Manitoba
	EP (SDO)	NW-7341	Saskatchewan Oil and Gas Corporation - Primrose Air Weapons Range, Saskatchewan
	EP (SDO)	NW-7325	Estevan Coal Corporation, Estevan, Saskatchewan
	EP (SDO)	NW-7332	SaskPower - Ash storage site, Shand thermal generating plant, Estevan, Sask.
MAY	CWS	NW-7311-1	TransCanada Pipelines 1992, facilities construction, Saskatchewan & Manitoba
	EP (ADO)	NW-4600	Nordic Meadows Golf Course, Canmore, Alberta
	EP (ADO)	NW-4606	Peerless Wood Preservers - PCP contamination, Cayley, Alberta
	EP (ADO)	NW-4607	Purity 99 Refinery - long term petroleum contamination, Hartell, Alberta
	EP (ADO)	NW-4608	Canada Creosote - Long-term creosote contamination, Bow River, Calgary, Alberta
JUNE	NIL		
JULY	NIL		
AUGUST	NIL		

TABLE 4 (cont'd)

MONTH	LEAD/SUPPORT	NUMBER	PROJECT TITLE
SEPTEMBER	CWS	NW-7360	Mistic Managment - 20 year Forest Management Plan, Saskatchewan
	EP (ADO)	NW-4467	Hyatt Regency Resort, Canmore, Alberta
	EP (SDO)	NW-7361	Jans Bay Biomass Project, Saskatchewan
	AES	NW-2851	EHR - Boreas Project
	EP (SDO)	NW-7362	Weyerhaeuser Canada Ltd., Prince Albert, Saskatchewan
	EP (SDO)	NW-7363	Cameco Ltd., McArthur River Ore Deposit, Saskatchewan
	EP (SDO)	NW-7358	Brownlee N. Irrigation Project, Saskatchewan (Information Only)
OCTOBER	CWS	NW-2815	DND - Expansion of dry training manoeuvers CFB Shilo, Manitoba
	CWS	NW-7364	SaskPower 72 kv power line, La Ronge, Saskatchewan
NOVEMBER			
	IWD	NW-2890	Pembina Water Valley Cooperative Inc., Water diversion, Manitoba
DECEMBER	NIL		

TABLE 5

1991 PROPOSAL STATUS REPORT REVIEW

INACTIVE PROJECTS

STATUS	LOCATION	REGISTRATION NUMBER	PROPOSAL TITLE	LEAD/SUPPORT	LEAD COORDINATOR	DATE LAST PSR ENTRY
	ALTA.	NW-4409	Milk River Dam	IWD	D. Munro	15/01/90
	SASK.	NW-7307	Pound Maker Ethanol Plant	EP	D. Waite	
		NW-7094	Cameco, Beaverlodge Mine Decommissioning	EP	D. Lawson	04/09/91
		NW-7309	Cameco - Hanson Lake Mine and Mill	DFO	G. McKinnon	04/09/91
		NW-7322	University of Saskatoon - Slowpoke	EP	D. Lawson	04/09/91
		NW-7361	Jans Bay Biomass Project	EP	D. Waite	
	MAN.	NIL				
	N.W.T.	NW-6330	Urangesellschaft Canada Ltd. - Kiggavik	EP	L. Johnston	25/11/91

TABLE 6

CLOSED PROJECTS

Projects Closed from EACC Agenda and Further Review

* Project Action/Status Report attached

1) NW-7339 - Sask. Power - Construction of a 230 kv transmission line from the Brada switching station to a switching station near Lloydminster, Saskatchewan (CWS)*

2) NW-4433 - Daishowa Canada - Pulpmill, Peace River, Alberta (EP ADO)*

3) NW-4543 - Alberta Energy Forest Management Plans (DFO)

4) NW-4474 - Dow Chemical Canada, Ethylene Plant, Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta (EP ADO)

5) P&YR - Site "C" Dam, British Columbia (IWD)

6) NW-4531 - Chinook Coals Ltd., Cadomin, Alberta (EP ADO)*

7) NW-4508 - Dinosaur Manufacturing & Packaging Corp., Drumheller, Alberta (EP ADO)

8) NW-4473 - Ice Age Company, Mount Cline Glacier, Alberta (EP ADO)

9) NW-7308 - CAMECO - Contact Lake Gold Mine, Saskatchewan (DFO)*

10) NW-2777 - TransCanada Pipelines, Expansion of the company's natural gas pipeline facilities (1991/92) (DFO)*

11) NW-2781 - Manitoba Hydro 138 kv high voltage transmission line - Conawapa to Limestone (CWS)*

12) NW-4529 - Smoky River Coal Limited, Development of No. 12 Mine South, Alberta (EP ADO)*

13) NW-7310 - Trans Canada Pipelines - Construction of a natural gas pipeline near Eastview, Saskatchewan (DFO)*

14) NW-7325 - Estevan Coal Corporation - Coal mine, Estevan, Saskatchewan (EP SDO)*

15) NW-7341 - Saskatchewan Oil and Gas Corporation - Primrose Air Weapons Range (EP SDO)*

16) NW-7346 - Big Quill Resources - Sodium sulphate extraction from Big Quill Lake, Saskatchewan (EP SDO)

17) NW-4560 - Chem-Security Ltd., Proposed expansion of the Alberta Special Waste Treatment Centre, Swan Hills (EP ADO)

18) NW-12050 - Kulluk Project (EP NWT DO)*

19) NW-4468 - OSLO Oil Sands Development (EP ADO)*

20) NW-4567 - Hyatt Regency Resort, Canmore, Alberta (EP ADO)*

21) NW-4435-1 - Commercial Trucking on the Kootenay Parkway (CPS)*

22) NW-4600 - Nordic Meadows Golf Course, Canmore, Alberta (EP ADO)*

23) NW-4462 - Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries Inc. - Athabasca Pulpmill (EP ADO)*

24) NW-11856 - DND Northern Training Centre (EP NWT DO)*

25) NW-10418 - Thor Lake Beryllium/Rare Earths Mine; DIAND; Highwood Resources Ltd., Hecla Mining (EP NWT DO)*

26) NW-10821 - DND Low Level Flights, Route IR-920; DND: U.S. Air Force Stategic Air Command (SAC) (EP NWT DO)*

27) NW-7340 - EMR - Seismic survey traversing central Saskatchewan and Manitoba (CWS)*

28) NW-2815 - DND Dry Training Manoeuvres at CFB Shilo, Manitoba (CWS)*

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7339 Saskatchewan Power - Construction of a 230 kv transmission line - Brada to Lloydminster (CWS)

BACKGROUND:

Service is to be provided primarily for the Lloydminster Husky upgrader project.

KEY ISSUES:

Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (PFRA) (Agriculture Canada) concerns exist, regarding the crossing of pasture lands. These concerns have been resolved. Private land-owners requested more information.

STATUS:

CWS provided comments directly to Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety on migratory bird concerns, because the power line was not considered in the overall project Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

FUTURE ACTION:

Public meetings are underway April 15, 16 and 17. SEPS approval will be given pending outcome.

Prepared by: C. Rodger
Phone: (403) 468-8938
Originated: April 4, 1991

Lead: CWS
Contact: R. Wickstrom
Phone (204) 983-5261

April 11, 1991 EACC Meeting - **PROJECT CLOSED**

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4433: Daishowa Canada Co. Ltd., Peace River Kraft Pulp Mill, Alberta; Department of Western Economic Diversification (DWED)

BACKGROUND:

Daishowa Canada has proposed construction and operation of a new bleached kraft pulpmill on the Peace River, 16 km downstream from the town of Peace River. Annual production is expected to be in the order of 240,000 tonnes of hardwood (aspen) pulp and 82,000 tonnes of softwood pulp. Wood supply will be in the form of whole logs (hardwood) from new logging operations and chips (softwood) from existing sawmills within a 200 km radius of the town of Peace River.

KEY ISSUES:

Environment Canada has been requested to participate in the review of an EIA prepared within the Alberta Environmental Assessment process. The project has been referred to DOE under the Canada/Alberta Sub-Agreement on EIA.

Federal interests in the project include:

a) Water Quality - The Pulp and Paper Effluent Regulations under the Fisheries Act apply. An opportunity exists to promote installation of "best available treatment technology" for parameters such as BOD, TSS, toxicity, etc.

b) Air Quality - The facility will be subject to the Clean Air Act - Wood Pulping Industry National Emission Guidelines for New Stationary Sources. There is an opportunity to promote best available technology for parameters such as particulates, SO_2 and odour.

c) Dioxins - The process used to produce bleached kraft pulp utilizes chlorine and chlorine dioxide CLO_2 as bleaching agents. Production of dioxins has been associated with this process. Dioxins are among the most toxic organic compounds produced by man. The significance of dioxins in wastes or products from pulpmills is under close evaluation in Canada and the U.S. Any new bleached kraft mill can be expected to be subjected to close scrutiny.

d) Downstream Water Use - Indian reserves and Wood Buffalo National Park are located downstream from the proposed pulpmill. Concerns about water quality and toxic chemicals (i.e. dioxins) could be related to these federal lands.

e) Fisheries - Commercial, recreational and domestic fisheries exist along the waterway. Species of interest include whitefish, walleye, goldeye, etc. Concerns about the potential for tainting could be raised.

f) Migratory Birds - Concerns could be raised about potential long-term effects of waste discharges on waterfowl (e.g. reproductive capability) or waterfowl in the Peace/Athabasca delta. If the woods operations are included in the EIS, concerns about forest management impacts on migratory birds could be raised.

g) Forest Management - Interest is expected from the public in including the woods operations/forest management agreements in the EIS. Federal interest in this should be peripheral as long as federal funding is not involved.

h) Federal Funding - The Western Diversification Office provided 150 K towards completion of the project definition feasibility study and federal funding in the order of $9.5 million will be made available for project development; contingent upon environmental acceptability.

STATUS:

Technical review of the EIA and two supplementary reports was completed with the conclusion that all applicable federal regulations would be met. Environment Canada's additional interest in a cooperative environmental effects monitoring program to evaluate incremental and accumulative effects is being pursed through the consultative mechanism under the Canada-Alberta Accord. A permit to construct was issued by ADOE June 22, 1988. Licenses to operate were issued in May, 1990. The mill commenced operations in July, 1990.

FUTURE ACTION:

On February 16, 1990 two separate notices of motion were filed in Federal Court in Edmonton, alleging that the Ministers of Environment, Fisheries and Oceans, Transport and Western Economic Diversification had failed to follow EARP and requesting that their Ministers be ordered to do so. DOE testimony will be central to the Respondent Departments' defense. Cross examination of DOE was completed in October, 1990. The court hearing on the case has been deferred until after the Supreme Court rules on an Appeal of the Oldman Dam Federal Court decision. This is not expected until at least September, 1991. Future action will depend upon the outcome of this litigation.

Prepared by:	F. Zaal	Lead:	EP
Phone:	(403) 468-8004	Contact:	F. Zaal (technical)
Originated:	March 15, 1988	Phone:	(403) 468-8004
Updated:	March 28, 1989	Contact:	W. Fenton (status of court challenge)
Updated:	February 5, 1991	Phone:	(403) 468-8013

February 6, 1991 PROJECT CLOSED

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC

NW-4531: Chinook Coals Limited, Proposed Coleman Coal Development

BACKGROUND

A subsidiary of Manalta Coal Ltd., Chinook Coals Limited (CCL) plans to develop surface coal mining near the community of Coleman, within the Crowsnest Pass Municipality. An existing preparation plantsite is to be restored to use, producing up to one million tonnes per year of clean, medium volatile, bituminous coal.

KEY ISSUES

Operations may exert impacts on wildlife or fish habitat; water quality and air quality concerns may arise from construction and operation.

STATUS

CCL submitted a preliminary disclosure to provincial authorities. Acceptance was issued subject to the satisfaction of environmental and land use conerns to be addressed in the EIA.

FUTURE ACTION

On January 16, 1990, Alberta Environment requested an EIA. Environment Canada has requested participation in the EIA review, but a completion date for the EIA has not been provided.

Prepared by:	C. Rodger	Lead:	EP (ADO)
Phone:	(403) 468-8003	Contact:	P. Erickson
Originated:	August 29, 1990	Phone:	(403) 468-8005
Updated:	September 27, 1990 (No change)		
Updated:	January 2, 1991 (No change)		

May 16, 1991 EACC Meeting: Project **INACTIVE** until further notice.

October 9, 1991 **PROJECT CLOSED**

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC

NW-7308 Cameco - Contact Lake gold project, Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND

This project involves the development of a 700 tonnes/day gold mining, milling and waste treatment operation at Contact Lake in La Ronge Provincial Park, Saskatchewan. Because this facility proposes to use the cyanidation process for gold recovery, it is exempted from the existing Fisheries Act Metal Mining Liquid Effluent Regulation (MMLER). Sewage and grey water will be pumped to a muskeg, from which it will seep into Turtle Lake. Turtle Lake will be dyked at its outlet to Scythes Lake. A dyke will be constructed across Turtle Lake in order to separate the main portion of the tailings pond from the polishing pond. It is proposed to operate the tailings pond for one year to observe the system under natural degradation conditions. After one year the use of hydrogen peroxide for cyanide elimination is proposed, if required.

On July 26, 1990, DFO screened the Contact Lake proposal pursuant to Section 12 of the EARP Guidelines Order. This initial screening determined that the potentially adverse environmental effects that may be caused by the proposal were unknown and that the proposal required further study. This decision was forwarded to Cameco on July 31, 1990.

KEY ISSUES

Potential impact of contaminated ground and surface water on fisheries in lakes downstream from the tailings pond and impact of intake pumping station at Contact Lake for mine process water. Turtle Lake (tailings pond) contains northern pike, white sucker and burbot. Scythes Lake (downstream from Turtle Lake) contains lake whitefish, northern pike, white sucker, cisco, walleye and yellow perch. Contact Lake is dominated by sport and commercial fish species including northern pike, walleye, yellow perch and lake whitefish.

STATUS

DFO (Initiating Department) released it's Record of Decision concluding that "the adverse environmental effects that may be caused by the proposal are mitigable with known technology, in which case the proposal may proceed with mitigation."

The above decision that the project may proceed is conditional upon the following mitigation measures:

1. Approval of this project is conditional on Cameco entering into a 'Fish Habitat Compensation Agreement' acceptable to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and Saskatchewan Parks and Renewable Resources - Fisheries Branch, in order to compensate for the destruction and/or alteration of fish habitat in Turtle Lake and Scythes Lake.

2. If natural degradation of tailings effluent fails to bring cyanide, copper and zinc concentrations to acceptable discharge levels, secondary treatment must be implemented to meet discharge criteria for freshwater aquatic life as outlined in the 1987 Canadian Water Quality Guidelines (CCREM).

3. Harmful groundwater encountered during dewatering and mining operations must be contained. If minewater proves to be contaminated with cyanide and/or copper, it must be redirected to the tailings pond rather than the minewater settling pond.

4. Solid and liquid wastes containing contaminants shall be disposed of in a manner that will not cause degradation of surface or groundwater. Runoff from ore stockpiles must be contained and treated, if required.

5. Maximum use of settled mine water and reclaim water from Turtle Lake for process water is required. This will minimize the need for freshwater from Contact Lake.

6. The proposed hydrogeological program to establish groundwater monitoring wells at five additional locations in the Turtle Lake basin must be undertaken prior to the dewatering of Turtle Lake. In addition to the proposed program, piezometers are required to be drilled on the south side of the lake. Upon commissioning of the mine, regular surface and groundwater samples as well as water level measurements must be taken. Peehy Lake, located downstream of the effluent release, must be monitored regularly for surface water quality. As mining proceeds and the tailings pond is filled, changes in water quality and direction of groundwater flow can be assessed.

7. All holes associated with exploration drilling must be backfilled if dry and grouted if flowing.

8. Mitigating measures must be adopted to avoid and contain erosion and to prevent siltation in receiving waters during the pumpdown of Turtle Lake. Timing of the pumpdown must be such that disruption of the movement of fish in Turtle Creek and Scythes Creek during spawning is avoided. Pumpdown from mid-june to mid-September is appropriate.

9. Releases of tailings pond discharge water must be timed so as not to interfere with the critical spawning and juvenile rearing periods which occur from approximately April 15 to July 15.

10. During construction of the access road, two creek crossings will be required. Design and construction of these crossings must be such that unobstructed fish passage is allowed and stream bottom and banks are protected from erosion processes. All debris and temporary structures associated with the construction must be removed upon completion of the work.

11. Excavation or backfilling work associated with the construction of the freshwater intake and pumphouse on Contact Lake must not take place during the spring or fall fish spawning periods. All temporary structures, including coffer dams and debris associated with construction, must be removed upon completion of the work. All shoreline areas disturbed by construction must be recontoured and revegetated so as to prevent erosion. Erosion prevention measures such as matting for netting will be required of the coffer dam if it is an earthern structure. The water intake must be screened and rock riprap must be placed around the intake to stabilize the reservoir bed.

12. The proponent is encouraged to institute strick conservation measures (ie. catch and release) for its' employees and maintain a record of fishing by employees.

13. Areas mined to surface, as well as reclaimed areas will require revegetating. The use of native grass and shrub species is encouraged.

14. Timber from road and site construction should be salvaged. Non-merchantable timber should be disposed of as suggested in consultation with Saskatchewan Parks and Renewable Resources. Topsoil removed from such sites should be stockpiled for future reclamation work.

15. Garbage from the camp site must be hauled offsite to a designated landfill.

FUTURE ACTION

DFO and Saskatchewan Parks and Renewable Resources - Fisheries Branch is currently negotiating a 'Fish Habitat Compensation Agreement' with Cameco.

Prepared by: Henry Majewski
Phone: (204) 983-5135
Originated: November 6, 1990
Updated: January 4, 1991
Updated: February 13, 1991
Updated: April 4, 1991 (G. Peregoodoff, EP, SDO)

Lead: DFO
Contact: Greg McKinnon
Phone: (204) 983-5220

APRIL 11, 1991 - PROJECT CLOSED

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-2777 Trans Canada Pipelines - Expansion of the company's natural gas pipeline facilities (1991/92), Manitoba

BACKGROUND:

The facilities consist of compressor units and pipeline loops. Most compressor station additions will be within the existing compressor station boundaries with no new land requirements. Pipeline loops are generally proposed in the existing or adjacent easement since looping segments of pipeline in the existing easement between fixed terminal points increases the capacity of the system incrementally and is therefore the most cost effective option.

KEY ISSUES:

Problems may be associated with the use of some waterbodies as a source for hydrostatic testing (i.e. increased levels of total solids, iron, conductivity, total organics and turbidity when water is discharged). The potential for chemical spills into fish-bearing waters exists (i.e. methanol, ethylene glycol and herbicides used for vegetation control). The crossing of streams and rivers could result in increased levels of suspended sediment downstream and may effect spawning grounds of the northern brook lamprey found in the Whitemouth River.

STATUS:

DFO concluded its' initial assessment of the 1991-92 Facilities Application pursuant to Section 12 of the federal EARP Guidelines Order (August 8, 1990). The screening decision was that the potentially adverse environmental effects that may be caused by the proposal are mitigable with known technology, in which case the proposal may proceed with mitigation. The above decision was conditional upon the routine application of procedures outlined in the two volumes of the Application and as described in Trans Canada Pipelines' Environmental Protection Practices Handbook, and upon environmental protection measures as established by provincial authorities. A field survey of the fisheries resources of the Whitemouth and Birch Rivers, Manitoba, was conducted in the fall of 1991, by TetrES Consultants Inc., under contract to TCPL. The contractor or TCPL will contact provincial regional Fisheries Branch staff prior to instream construction, and will undertake post-construction monitoring.

FUTURE ACTION:

Screening completed; file closed. DFO will however continue to monitor to ensure compliance with the terms of approval.

Prepared by:	Karen Broughton	Lead:	DFO
Phone:	(204) 983-5230	Contact:	Greg McKinnon
Originated:	August 8, 1990	Phone:	(204) 983-5220
Updated:	January 8, 1991		
Updated:	December 9, 1991		

PROJECT CLOSED

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-2781 Manitoba Hydro 138 kv high voltage transmission line - Conawapa to Limestone

BACKGROUND:

The proposed Limestone to Conawapa 138/230 kv transmission line is to power the proposed Conawapa hydroelectric dam site on the lower Nelson River, Manitoba. A 12 kv line constructed in 1988/89 will remain to provide backup power.

KEY ISSUES:

Construction of the transmission line will necessitate opening another corridor, in addition to the 12 kv line and proposed all-weather road, which will traverse virgin boreal forest and cross numerous streams and lakes.

STATUS:

The Environmental Impact Assessment has been reviewed. The project has been approved to proceed.

FUTURE ACTION:

Construction of the line. Track progress/implementation of DOE recommendations.

Prepared by:	R.D. Wickstrom	Lead:	CWS
Phone:	(204) 983-5261	Contact:	R.D. Wickstrom
Originated:	March 4, 1991	Phone:	(204) 983-5261

April 11, 1991 PROJECT CLOSED

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC

NW-4529: Smoky River Coal Limited, Development of No. 12 Mine South

BACKGROUND

The continuation of current mining operations is proposed within existing coal leases held by Smoky River Coal Limited (SRCL) and Copton Excol Limited. The project area of 1425 hectares contains approximately 8 million tonnes of surface minable reserves. These low volatile bituminous coal deposits are held in two major reserves about 19 km NW of Grande Cache.

KEY ISSUES

Surface operations may affect wildlife and fisheries. Watershed and water quality protection must also be addressed in the reclamation program.

STATUS

The EIA was filed with Alberta Environment on January 4, 1990. EP (ADO) received the PA/S from Alberta Environment in May, 1990. ADOE Ministerial approvals were issued on June 28, 1990. The EIA was not reviewed by Environment Canada.

FUTURE ACTION

The Smoky River Coal Mine #12 South received Ministerial approval from Alberta before the federal government could initiate a review of the EIA. It has been in operation since November, 1990. DFO has informed EP that it does not intend to conduct an assessment of the project. EP recommends that the EACC close the file on this project.

Prepared by: K. Rothwell
Phone: (403) 468-8006
Originated: August 29, 1990
Updated: September 27, 1990
Updated: January 4, 1991
Updated: August 26, 1991

Lead: EP (ADO)
Contact: P. Erickson
Phone: (403) 468-8005

September 4, 1991 EACC Meeting PROJECT CLOSED

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7310 Trans Canada Pipelines - Construction of a natural gas pipeline in the Moose Jaw River in NW 1/4 Sec. 19, TWP 17, RGE 24, W^2M, near Eastview, Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

Trans Canada Pipelines is undertaking the installation of a 914 mm natural gas pipeline across the Moose Jaw River, tentatively to start in June, 1990. The top of the pipe shall be maintained 1.5 m minimum below river bottom, excluding depth of river muck. The proponent will restore and stabilize banks and disturbed right-of-way as soon after back-filling as possible. Trench materials shall be deposited on both banks in designated stock-pile areas. Trench spoil may be left in the trench until pipe is installed. River bottom shall be recontoured to near original grade.

KEY ISSUES:

During spring the Moose Jaw River supports northern pike and sucker spawning runs. Riverbed disturbance, stream bank and right-of-way erosion are the key considerations with respect to this project.

STATUS:

DFO has screened the proposal pursuant to Section 12 of the EARP Guidelines Order. The screening decision was that the potentially adverse environmental effects that may be caused by the proposal are mitigable with known technology, in which case the proposal may proceed with mitigation. Transport Canada (Navigable Waters Section) has been advised of the DFO decision and the mitigation measures required (July 11, 1990).

FUTURE ACTION:

DFO will monitor to ensure compliance with the terms of approval.
The project has been completed and should be closed.

Prepared by:	Henry Majewski	Lead:	DFO
Phone:	(204) 983-513	Contact:	G. McKinnon
Originated:	November 6, 1990	Phone:	(204) 983-5220
Updated:	January 4, 1991		
Updated:	July 24, 1991		

PROJECT CLOSED

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7325 Estevan Coal Corporation - Shand Coal Mine, Estevan

BACKGROUND:

A new coal mine to supply the Shand power plant.

KEY ISSUES:

Mine water discharge near Souris River; reclamation.

STATUS:

DFO issued a screening decision on February 4, 1991 that potential adverse environmental effects are mitigable and listed nine mitigative measures.

FUTURE ACTION:

None. Recommend that the EACC project file be closed.

Prepared by: D. Waite
Phone: (306) 780-6438
Originated: July 19, 1991

Lead: EP (SDO)/RMSC Support
Contact: D. Waite
Phone: (306) 780-6438

September 4, 1991 EACC Meeting - PROJECT CLOSED

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7341 Saskatchewan Oil and Gas Corporation - Primrose Air Weapons Range (EP)

BACKGROUND:

Exploratory drilling and testing on the Saskatchewan portion of the Weapons Range.

KEY ISSUES:

Stream crossings; impact on wildlife; impact on surface hydrology; erosion; fish habitat.

STATUS:

On July 15, 1991, DFO made a screening decision that potential adverse effects can be mitigated with known technology and listed 21 conditions.

FUTURE ACTION:

Recommend that the EACC project file be closed.

Prepared by:	D. Waite	Lead:	EP (SDO)
Phone:	(306) 780-6438	Contact:	D. Waite
Originated:	July 19, 1991	Phone	(306) 780-6438
Updated:	August 21, 1991		

September 4, 1991 EACC Meeting - **PROJECT CLOSED**

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-12050 Gulf Canada; Exploratory Drilling in the Beaufort Sea, 1990-92

BACKGROUND:

Gulf Canada Ltd. proposed a three-year offshore drilling program for the Beaufort Sea area during 1990-92. Well locations were tentative, although all drilling operations were to be undertaken from the mobile caisson "KULLUK". The Inuvialuit's Screening Committee referred the proposal to an Environmental Impact Review Board for public review. Gulf prepared a submission to the EIRB for public review. Gulf prepared a submission to the EIRB outlining the nature, possible environmental effects and spill response capabilities of the proposed drilling program. Other submissions were tendered by government agencies and members of the public.

KEY ISSUES

1. Relief well capability.
2. Spill response and cleanup.
3. Control of other drilling associated discharges (sewage, rig wash, oily wastewater, etc.).
4. Oil spill risks to waterfowl.

STATUS

A DOE submission was prepared via the hydrocarbon subcommittee of the EACC, chaired by EP NWT District. The review comments were delivered to the Review Board and DOE representatives attended some of the Public Hearings. The Board recommended that the drilling program not proceed until issues of spill response capability and ability to financially compensate for spill damage were satisfactorily addressed by Gulf. Gulf has stated it will not drill any wells during the summer of 1990.

FUTURE ACTION

Monitor and assess as necessary any further submissions by Gulf to EIRB.

Prepared by:	Tim Sackmann	Lead:	EP NWT District
Phone:	(403) 873-3456	Contact:	L. Johnston
Originated:	April 23, 1990	Phone:	(403) 456-3456
Updated:	August 10, 1990		
Updated:	January 21, 1991 (No change)		
Updated:	June 13, 1991		

September 4, 1991 EACC Meeting - Project Closed

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4468 OSLO Oil Sands Development, Fort McMurray, Alberta

BACKGROUND:

The OSLO project is a proposed commercial oil sands development located on OSLO lease 31 about 60 km north of Fort McMurray and 25 km northeast of Fort MacKay. The project is a joint venture led by Esso Resources Canada and includes interests of Alberta Oil Sands Equity, Canadian Occidental Petroleum Ltd., Gulf Canada Resources Limited, Pan Canadian Petroleum Limited and Petro-Canada Inc.

The present proposal is for an oil sands mining and extration operation on lease 31 north of Fort McMurray and an upgrader at Redwater. Extracted bitumen and diluent is to be shipped by pipeline to Redwater and diluent recycled to Fort McMurray. Pipeline construction is expected to follow existing right of ways and to be undertaken by a third party. The proposal is to convert about 12,000 cubic metres per day of extracted bitumen into about 12,500 cubic metres of high quality synthetic crude oil.

The estimated peak construction work force is expected to be 6,000. The permanent operating staff is expected to be 2,500.

KEY ISSUE:

Air Emission Control
Water Supply
Wastewater Discharge
Tailings Panel Management
Solid Waste/Hazardous Waste Management
Groundwater Evaluation
Pit Drainage
Surface Water Diversion
Land Use/Reclamation
Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
Wildlife and Habitat
Historical Resources

STATUS:

Scoping for the project EIA is ongoing through the Application Review Team (ART) Environmental Sub-Committee. Environment Canada began representation on the committee February 5, 1990. Five workshops to develop concensus on the content of the EIA have been conducted by OSLO with the involvement of key stakeholders. A first draft of the EIA for review and comment by the various ART subcommittees and workshop participants is slated for February, 1991. OSLO projects filing the ERCB application and EIA sometime between mid-April and mid-May.

FUTURE ACTION:

Conduct coordinated departmental review of the EIA and develop departmental position on the proposal. Participate in the public hearings.

Prepared by:	F. Zaal	Lead:	EP (ADO)
Phone:	(403) 468-8004	Contact:	F. Zaal
Originated:	February 28, 1989	Phone:	(403) 468-8004
Updated:	January 8, 1991		

September 4, 1991 EACC Meeting - Project Closed

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4567 Hyatt Regency Resort, Canmore, Alberta

BACKGROUND:

The proposal is for a mixed resort development including a golf course in and adjacent to the Town of Canmore. The development would encompass a total area of 249.2 hectares and include a 500 room, six storey luxury hotel, 40 residential units in 9 cells accommodating up to 733 persons and up to another 800 staff and rental units. This proposal would replace the earlier proposed Alberta Housing and Mortgage Benchland development.

KEY ISSUES:

Contribution to cumulative impacts resulting from several resort developments in the Canmore Corridor. Increased recreational and resource pressures on Banff National Park.

STATUS:

The project was referred to DOE by DFO for advice pursuant to Section 19 of the EARP Order-In-Council. DOE has not identified a decision making responsibility for itself for this project. DOE provided DFO with advice as requested by DFO.

FUTURE ACTION:

DFO has decided that impacts from this development on fish and fish habitat are unlikely, and is not initiating department pursuant to the EARP Order-in-Council, and has so advised the proponent. Hence, DOE anticipates no further action on this project.

Prepared by:	Fred Zaal	Lead:	EP (ADO)
Originated:	July 12, 1991	Contac:	Fred Zaal
Updated:	August 28, 1991	Phone:	(403) 468-8004

September 4, 1991 EACC Meeting - PROJECT CLOSED

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4435-1: Commercial Trucking on the Kootenay Parkway; Kootenay National Park

BACKGROUND:

The Kootenay Parkway is an important highway route between the Columbia Valley in British Columbia anc. Alberta. Concern about the use of the Parkway for the transport of resource materials was identified during the development of the "Kootenay National Park Mangement Plan" in 1987. Subsequently, investigations into the impact of commercial trucking to wildlife (ie. vehicle-caused wildlife mortality) and to visitor enjoyment of the national park were undertaken.

KEY ISSUES:

A number of resource materials mined in the province of British Columbia are transported to markets and processing facilities in Alberta. The economic viability of these industries is based, in large part, on the availability of the Kootenay Parkway to deliver these products.

Initially, there was concern that use of the Parkway by commercial vehicles detracted from the enjoyment of the park by park visitors. A survey conducted in 1988 indicated that during summer driving conditions, most motorists did not find the trucks troublesome.

Concern continues about the impact of vehicular traffic, especially commercial trucking, to wildlife populations in the park.

STATUS:

A draft management plan and IEE have been prepared. Meetings with major stakeholders (eg. trucking industry and resource industries) have been held to discuss recommendations made in those documents and identify issues of outstanding concern.

FUTURE ACTION:

The IEE is currently undergoing revisions based on review comments provided by the EACC and Stakeholders. CPS and Stakeholders will meet once more before proceeding to general public meetings tentatively scheduled for late spring, 1991.

Prepared by:	B. Beswick	Lead:	Canadian Parks Service
Phone:	(403) 292-4412		
Originated:	February 22, 1988	Contact:	B. Leeson
Updated:	March 26, 1990	Phone:	(403) 292-4438
Updated:	February 28, 1991		

November 7, 1991 EACC Meeting - **PROJECT CLOSED**

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4600 Nordic Meadows Golf Course, Canmore

BACKGROUND:

The Nordic Meadows Golf Course proposal used to be called Mountain Meadows Golf Course. The proposal is to develop an 18 hole golf course and club house in a series of created meadows that were once mine spoil areas and have subsequently been reclaimed by Alberta Environment. The location is immediately south of Canmore at the foot of China Mans Peak and is accessed from the Spray Lakes Road.

KEY ISSUES:

Impacts on fish and fish habitat. Impact on water quality in Canmore Creek (fertilizer use, changes in mine seepage); potential impacts on Banff National Park resources resulting from increased access and population; impacts on migratory birds, wildlife and habitat. The cumulative impacts of this, and other developments in the Bow River valley around Canmore, have the potential to significantly impact on the environment in the area.

STATUS:

DFO is the federal Initiating department due to the presence of trout and trout spawning habitat in Canmore Creek. DFO asked for specialist advice from DOE. Comments were sent to DFO on June 21, 1991.

In response to a number of proposals in the Bow River valley (Hyatt Regency Resort and Golf Course, Three Sisters Golf Course and Destination Resort, Kananaskis Guest Ranch Golf Course) DOE has expressed interest in having a cumulative impacts assessment done on development in the entire Bow River Valley. The Committee of Regional Executives (CORE) brought this issue to the attention of Alberta Environment. Minister Klein stated that it would be considered by the NRCB in a joint review board with other developments in the area, but nothing has been done since.

FUTURE ACTION:

Nothing has been done since June 21, 1991. DFO has yet to make a screening decision.

Prepared by:	Miles Constable	Lead:	EP (ADO)
Phone:	(403) 468-8005	Phone:	(403) 468-8005
Originated:	May 13, 1991	Contact:	Miles Constable
Updated:	June 14, 1991		
Updated:	October 8, 1991		

September 4, 1991 EACC Meeting - Project Closed

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4462: Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries Inc. (ALPAC), (a subsidiary of Crestbrook Forest Industries Ltd.) - Athabasca Pulp Mill, Alberta

BACKGROUND:

ALPAC proposed a new bleached kraft pulp mill on the Athabasca River, 50 km downstream from the town of Athabasca. The pulp mill will produce 1,500 air dried tonnes per day (ADt/d) of hardwood pulp and 1,250 ADt/d of softwood pulp. 80% of the mill's production will be hardwood pulp. The mill will be the largest single line kraft mill in the world. Capital cost for the mill is estimated to be $1.6 billion dollars. Construction will start in the spring of 1991. During construction, approximately 2,800 man years of employment will be generated on site. During operation, 400 jobs will be created at the mill with the woodlands operation generating another 600 jobs. ALPAC will use a new bleaching technology which eliminates the use of elemental chlorine and, as a result, significantly reduce the discharge of chlorinated organic compounds (from 1.5 to .35 kg/ADt of AOX).

The project was announced on December 13, 1988. A federal review of the EIS was completed in July, 1989 and the comments sent to ADOE in August, 1989. A federal-provincial Review Board was established in July, 1989 to conduct a review of the project; public hearings were held as part of the review. The Review Board released its final report in March, 1990. The Board recommended that the mill not be built. In April, ALPAC proposed their new technology. A provincial Scientific Review Panel was established in July, 1990 to examine the feasibility of the new technology; The Panel concluded that the technology was feasible. On December 20, 1990 the provincial government announced approval of the mill.

KEY ISSUES:

Chlorinated organic compounds; nutrients; dissolved oxygen; impacts on Wood Buffalo National Park; fisheries; air quality; water odour and taste; fish tainting.

STATUS:

The mill is under construction.

FUTURE ACTION:

None required. Recommend file be closed.

Prepared by: K. Rothwell
Phone: (403) 468-8006
Originated: February 1, 1989
Updated: August 29, 1989
Updated: March 30, 1990
Updated: January 4, 1991

Lead: EP
Contact: Kath Rothwell
Phone: (403) 468-8006

PROJECT CLOSED

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-11856 DND Northern Training Centre

BACKGROUND:

DND initially proposed to establish a Northern Training Centre in Nanisivik; however, the expense of maintaining townsite infrastructure and the fact that the mine life has been extended by another ten years forced DND to search for an alternate site. The preferred site is now Rea Point, Melville Island, the site of an existing staging area operated by Panarctic Oils Ltd.

KEY ISSUES:

Proposed activities at the Training Centre include establishement and use of small arms and light explosive ranges and cross-country ATV movement (normally restricted to tracked snow vehicles during winter periods). Primary concerns include potential for terrain disturbance and problems associated with solid and liquid waste disposal.

STATUS:

A preliminary screening report has been reviewed by RERC members. On the basis of that review, a recommendation will be made by DIAND as to the need for an IEE.

FUTURE ACTION:

Review IEE if required.

Prepared by:	Tim Sackmann	Lead:	EP
Phone:	(403) 873-3456	Contact:	L. Johnston
Originated:	March 26, 1990	Phone:	403) 873-3456
Updated:	August 10, 1990		
Updated:	January 21, 1991		
Updated:	November 25, 1991 - PROJECT CLOSED		

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-10418 Thor Lake Beryllium/Rare Earths Mine; DIAND; Highwood Resources Ltd. Hecla Mining

BACKGROUND:

Highwood Resources Ltd. has proposed development of a beryllium/rare earths mine at Thor Lake, NWT; approximately 100 km southeast of Yellowknife, just north of the Hearne Channel of Great Slave Lake. Mine development is at an advanced stage of exploration. Bulk sampling to confirm ore metallurgy was ongoing during 1985, 1986 and 1987. A winter access road from Great Slave Lake to this site was under construction in 1986 and issued in 1987.

KEY ISSUES:

Beryllium and rare earths deposits are somewhat unique. Impacts from development of this deposit are uncertain given the lack of experience in the W&N Region with minerals of this type. Concerns may exist because of:

(a) uncertainty over milling and tailings treatment technology
(b) limited information on the environmental toxicology of beryllium, rare earths and related compounds
(c) possible extension of a winter road into this area from the Terra Mines Ltd., Bullmoose Lake Gold project or along Great Slave Lake from Yellowknife. Contingency planning and spill prevention/response for fuel and hazardous material transport may become an issue.

Also, the project may prove to be controversial due to the local perception that beryllium is only used by the nuclear industry (beryllium is used in reactor shields and protective shields in nuclear weapons; it is also used in computer wiring, "high tech" steel alloys and other communications and biomedical research purposes).

STATUS:

A DOE review of the Thor Lake Project Description was completed in November, 1988. The review identified information deficiences regarding the potential effects of airborne transport of beryllium and/or rare earths dust, treatments, long-term stabilization of tailings, objectives and rationale for environmental monitoring, and toxicity of soluble beryllium to northern aquatic organisms.

In light of these information deficiencies, DOE has recommended to DIAND that an Initial Environmental Evaluation (IEE) be prepared. Guidelines for preparation of an IEE were issued to the proponent in 1985; to date, however, Highwood Resources-Hecla Mining have not responded to DIAND's request.

FUTURE ACTION:

Review comments regarding the Project Description and the DOE recommendation for preparation of an IEE will be provided to DIAND via the Regional Environmental Review Committee. Once submitted, EP-NWT District Office will coordinate the DOE review of the IEE.

The project is on hold until a market for the project can be secured.

Prepared by:	Warren Fenton	Lead:	EP - NWT
Phone:	(403) 468-8013	Contact:	T. Sackmann
Originated:	January 21, 1986	Phone:	(403) 873-3456
Updated:	November 15, 1988		
Updated:	February 5, 1990		
Updated:	June 21, 1990		
Updated:	November 25, 1991 - PROJECT CLOSED		

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-10821: DND Low Level Flights, Route IR-920; DND; U.S. Air Force Strategic Air Command (SAC)

BACKGROUND:

The Department of National Defence (DND) in conjunction with the U.S. Air Force Strategic Air Command, has proposed a series of annual low-level training flights over the next several years. The proposal will involve up to 100 aircraft (B-52's, FB-111's and BIB's) flying at low levels over at least four one-day periods, in each quarter. The proposed route will initiate north of the East Arm of Great Slave Lake, proceed south to the Alberta border into northwestern Saskatchewan, south to the Primrose Lake area and west into CFB, Cold Lake, Alberta.

DOE provided preliminary input to DND at a meeting held in Edmonton in early December, 1985. DND was advised that impacts were likely to be minor if the route avoided key wildlife habitats and communities. Development of a contingency plan for accidents/emergencies and early consultation with GNWT, INAC, the provinces and local communities were also recommended.

The provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan, GNWT and INAC were advised of the proposal early in 1986 and have been kept informed since that time. A consultative meeting chaired by DND was held with all government agencies interested in the environmental review in early August. A meeting with government agencies and public interest groups was held in Yellowknife on Dec. 10/86. Environment Canada attended both meetings. Similar meetings with the public were not held in for Alberta and Saskatchewan.

DND requested that SAC complete an Initial Environmental Evaluation for the proposal. Environmental Sciences Ltd. (ESL) completed this work. The IEE was released for review in May, 1987. DOE comments have been provided directly to DND in a coordinated Departmental response on the entire route and through DIAND's Regional Environmental Review Committee (RERC) for NWT portions of the route.

KEY ISSUES:

- Concern over potential noise impacts on wildlife and people (hunters, trappers, fishermen, tourists, etc.).

- Potential conflict with spring and fall bird migration and wilderness values of proposed East Arm National Park (Great Slave Lake).

- DND/SAC failure to consult with provinces and GNWT early in the planning process. Limited opportunity for community/public involvement during review of IEE.

- Contingency planning for emergencies or accidents.

-Need for follow-up to ensure implementation of appropriate mitigation during actual exercises.

- General opposition by some members of the public to military exercises in the NWT and western Canada.

STATUS:

DOE has provided comments on the Draft IEE and Final IEE. The Minister of National Defence announced in June 1989 that the project will proceed with appropriate mitigation. Opposition has been expressed by the Territorial legislature of the NWT, the Dene Nation and affected local communities in the NWT.

The Dene Nation and Hamlet of Snowdrift have indicated their intention to challenge DND's Initial Assessment decision in court. The basis for this challenge has not been confirmed but is expected to relate to the perceived need for a public review Panel due to significant local public concern. DND has not yet announced the anticipated date for the first low level exercise.

FUTURE ACTIONS:

Participate in pre-flight wildlife reconnaissance flights (CWS). Review annual report on mitigation when produced.

Continue to liaise with other review agencies such as DIAND, Alberta Environment, Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety and the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Respond to any requests for documentation on DOE's role in the review of the IEE as related to the anticipated court challenge.

Prepared by:	W. Fenton	Lead:	EP
Phone:	(403) 468-8013	Contact:	W. Fenton
Originated:	June 12, 1986	Phone:	(403) 468-8013
Revised:	October 10, 1986		
Revised:	November 28, 1986		
Revised:	January 2, 1987		
Revised:	July 17, 1987		
Revised:	October 22, 1987		
Revised:	August 8, 1988		
Revised:	February 23, 1989 (no change)		
Revised:	February 23, 1990		
Revised:	May 17, 1990 (no change)		
Revised:	June 21, 1990		
Revised:	November 25, 1991 - PROJECT CLOSED		

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7340 EMR - Seismic survey traversing central Saskatchewan and Manitoba (CWS)

BACKGROUND:

This project is a northern Manitoba component of a larger national survey.

KEY ISSUES:

Disturbance of birds nesting along the road right-of-ways. Active work scheduled for post nesting-rearing season.

STATUS:

Completed.

FUTURE ACTION:

None.

Prepared by: R.D. Wickstrom
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Originated: Jan. 9, 1992

Lead: CWS
Contact: R.D. Wickstrom
Phone: (204) 983-5261

PROJECT CLOSED

PROJECT/ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-2815 DND Dry Training Manoeuvres at CFB Shilo, Manitoba

BACKGROUND:

Consideration is being given to a German army proposal to renew their arrangement for dry training manoeuvres at CFB Shilo, which would incorporate an increase in the area impacted by these activities.

KEY ISSUES:

The area to be impacted is unique in Manitoba, consisting of shallow rooted vegetation over sand, which once disturbed becomes difficult to re-establish. The area is referred to as the "Manitoba desert", which while not arid, has many desert-like characteristics.

STATUS:

An environmental assessment of this proposal is being undertaken for CFB but is not yet completed. As well, the German authorities have not decided to reinvest with a further period plus expansion of the past training or to develop similar facilities in the recently amalgamated East German territory.

The nature of the impacts stemming from the proposed expansion will have a bearing on the extent of expansion permitted. This limit in turn will be a major factor in the German decision to continue at CFB Shilo or to develop larger scale facilities at home.

FUTURE ACTION:

Although the EIS draft is expected to be available for review shortly, impact to areas of responsibility of CWS, EP, IWD and AES were considered to be very minor and this was conveyed to DND December 12, 1991, saying no further input is required. This EACC file can be closed.

Prepared by:	R. Wickstrom	Lead:	CWS
Phone:	(204) 983-5261	Contact:	R. Wickstrom
Originated:	March 20, 1992	Phone:	(204) 983-5261

MARCH 20, 1992 - PROJECT CLOSED FOR EACC PURPOSES

PART C

EACC AND REGIONAL SUB-COMMITTEES

1991 MEMBERSHIP

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Members	Service	Location
Dr. R.K. Lane, Chairman	RDGO - C&P	Edmonton
Dr. R. McV. Clarke	DFO	Winnipeg
Mr. T. Goos (Western Region)	AES	Edmonton
Mr. D.G. Schaefer (Central Region)	AES	Winnipeg
Mr. D. Johnson	FC	Edmonton
Mr. S. Zoltai - Alternate	FC	Edmonton
Mr. D. Munro	IWD	Regina
Mr. R. Herrington - Alternate	IWD	Regina
Mr. T. Coleman - (Alberta)	CWS	Edmonton
Mr. K. McCormick - Alternate (N.W.T.)	CWS	Yellowknife
Mr. R. Wickstrom - Alternate	CWS	Winnipeg
Mr. W. Fenton	EP	Edmonton
Mr. D. Kerfoot (Prairie & Northern Region)	CPS	Winnipeg
Dr. B. Leeson (Western Region)	CPS	Calgary
Secretariat		
Ms. D. Lorieau	EP	Edmonton
Mr. W. Fenton	EP	Edmonton

EACC REGIONAL SUB-COMMITTEES
WESTERN AND NORTHERN REGION

1. **Regional Mining Sub-Committee**

Members	Service	Location
Ms. S. Mercer/Mr. B. Munson	EP	
Mr. R.F. Hopkinson	*AES (N&S 60)(E 110)	Regina
Mr. P. Kociuba	*AES (N&S 60)(W 110)	Edmonton
Mr. R. Wickstrom	CWS (N&S 60)	Winnipeg
Mr. D. Munro	IWD	Regina
Mr. B. Fallis	DFO	Winnipeg
Mr. D. Johnson	FC (N&S 60)	Edmonton
Mr. P. Dugandzic (uranium projects only)	EP	Regina

* AES Western/Central Regional division essentially 110 longitude.

2. **Regional Dredging Sub-Committee**

Members	Service	Location
Mr. T. Coleman	CWS	Edmonton
Mr. J.N. Stein	DFO	Winnipeg
Mr. W. Fenton	EP	Edmonton
Mr. D. Munro	IWD	Regina

3. **Regional Transportation Sub-Committee**

Members	Service	Location
Mr. D. Johnson	FC	Edmonton
Mr. T. Coleman	CWS	Edmonton
Mr. W. Fenton	EP	Edmonton
Mr. M.D. Drews - Alternate	AES	Edmonton
Mr. B. Atkinson - Alternate	AES (Man. Projects)	Winnipeg
Mr. G.A. McKinnon	DFO	Winnipeg
Mr. D. Munro	IWD	Regina

4. **Regional Hydropower Sub-Committee**

Members	Service	Location
Mr. D. Munro	IWD	Regina
Mr. B. Bond	DFO	Winnipeg
Mr. R. Wickstrom	CWS	Winnipeg
Mr. W. Fenton	EP	Edmonton
Mr. M.D. Drews	AES (Western)	Edmonton
Mr. R. Hopkinson	AES (Central)	Regina
Mr. B. Yeo	CPS	Calgary

5. **Regional Hydrocarbon Sub-Committee**

Members	Service	Location
Mr. T. Coleman	CWS	Edmonton
Mr. J. Stein	DFO	Winnipeg
Mr. D. Johnson	FC	Edmonton
Mr. D. Woo	EP	Edmonton
Mr. M.N. Parker	AES	Edmonton
Mr. B. Atkinson	AES	Winnipeg
Mr. D. Munro	IWD	Regina

6. **Regional Tar Sands and Heavy Oils Sub-Committee**

Members	Service	Location
Mr. V. Marwaha	EP	Edmonton
Mr. T. Coleman	CWS	Edmonton
Mr. R.F. Hopkinson	AES	Regina
Mr. P. Kociuba	AES	Edmonton
Mr. T. Goos (Alternate)	AES	Edmonton
Mr. B. Bond	DFO	Winnipeg
Mr. D. Munro	IWD	Regina
Mr. D. Johnson	FC	Edmonton

7. **Forestry (Pulp and Paper) Sub-Committee**

Members	Service	Location
Mr. D. Woo	EP	Edmonton
Mr. T. Coleman	CWS	Edmonton
Mr. D. Johnson	FC	Edmonton
Mr. D. Munro	IWD	Regina
Mr. G. Hopky	DFO	Winnipeg
	CPS	Winnipeg
Mr. P. Kocuiba	AES	Edmonton
Mr. R. Hopkinson	AES	Regina